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ABSTRACT

These hearings explore the gap between young and old and ways to bridge that gap. Statements from each of the eight members of the committee focus on the relationship between youths and older adults, the role of the family, and the need for strengthening inter-generational relationships. Statements are presented from witnesses including child psychologists Fitzhugh Dodson and Lee Salk, actors Doug McKeon and Bob Keeshan, reporter Ben Jorgensen, and senior citizen food co-op personnel Laura Albrant and Doris Freese of Rochester, Minnesota. These remarks include a discussion of maximizing the potential of people of all age groups, the new extended family, one adolescent's view of older adults, the grandparent role, older adults as a resource, the changing concept of the family, benefits of contact and communication with older adults, and experiences with a senior citizens' food co-op. Statements of both members and witnesses contain personal anecdotal material. Included in the transcript of the hearings are scripts of two CBS radio programs dealing with grandparenting. (AG)

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OLD AND YOUNG: GENERATIONS AT THE CROSSROADS

ED232119

HEARING

BEFORE THE

SELECT COMMITTEE ON AGING
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-SEVENTH CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

SEPTEMBER 8, 1982

Printed for the use of the Select Committee on Aging

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OLD AND YOUNG: GENERATIONS AT THE CROSSROADS

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1982

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
SELECT COMMITTEE ON AGING,
Washington, D.C.

The select committee met, pursuant to call, at 10:10 a.m., in room 345, Cannon House Office Building, Hon. Claude Pepper (chairman of the committee) presiding.

Members present: Representatives Pepper of Florida; Roybal of California; Hughes of New Jersey; Oakar of Ohio; Ratchford of Connecticut; Frank of Massachusetts; Wyden of Oregon; Albosta of Michigan; Marks of Pennsylvania; Lungren of California; Fenwick of New Jersey; Daub of Nebraska; and Heckler of Massachusetts.

Staff present: Charles H. Edwards III, chief of staff; Yosef Riemer, deputy chief of staff; Marie Brown, executive secretary; Suzanne Marcus, staff assistant; and John E. Vihstadt, minority staff director.

OPENING STATEMENT OF CHAIRMAN CLAUDE PEPPER

The CHAIRMAN. The committee will come to order, please.

Today, by the goodness of the Lord, I became 82. Birthdays are a reflective time and this morning, I find myself thinking back many years to my boyhood and to the friends and relatives who helped me to learn about life and about myself. I remember so vividly sitting by my grandfathers, who had served in the War Between the States and urging them to share with me again and again the stories of glory and sadness related to that terrible conflict. Our two generations came together during those hours, and we touched each other's lives forever. Never shall I be able to forget the happy visits we would make to the homes of our grandparents and what it meant to be able to visit with them, to look at them, and to watch them.

I shall never forget the particular blessing that my father's father always used at the table in a deep, resonant voice. He would always say, "Lord, accept our thanks for these and all other blessings that we enjoy. We ask in Christ's name, amen."

I have used that blessing all the rest of my life. I remember it from the days of my grandfathers.

Our Aging Committee also crosses the generations this morning to explore a relationship that profoundly affects the very life of America and may have the greatest impact of all on our future as a society. The natural bond between old and young is as basic and

primitive as the most ancient of cultures and yet, as fragile and tenuous as a newborn infant under the pressures of modern life. Ask any of us, child or old man, whether we have had chances to see and know one another and to learn from one another, and we will answer, "Not often enough."

I used to go hunting with my father's father. When my family and I moved from the country where I was born to a little town, I had two little dogs that my father had given me. One was named Tip and the other Tyler and since we didn't think we had a place for them in our new home, I gave them to my grandfather. They were good hunting dogs, so many times when I would visit my father's father, Grandpa Pepper, why, he and I would go hunting with our two little dogs, Tip and Tyler, and what happy experiences those were.

The old and the young may soon become strangers. We have separate quarters these days: Separate homes, separate functions, separate lives. The extended family of 50 years ago had to give way to the realities of modern life. Today 1 out of 8 children lives in a single-parent home, and an estimated 4 out of 10 children born in the 1970's will live in a single-parent home during part of their lifetimes.

It is a matter of general knowledge that now there is one divorce for every three marriages and that means generally divided families, one-parent homes and sometimes the children are deprived of the right to enjoy the loveliness of being associated with grandparents. Another thing is that one out of five families moves every year. Often the move away to some other place means children lose the connection they formerly enjoyed with their grandparents.

The interaction was natural—my mother's mother died when she was about 45 and I was about 7 or 8 years old, but my other grandparents, the other three, all lived longer. I was about 18 years old when my mother's father died, and I was over 20 when my father's mother and father passed away, so I had the joy, the thrill of knowing my grandparents. Relatively few children today have that experience.

Children of this decade are living through a period of great confusion. They are experiencing the psychological conflicts of the highest divorce rate in our history and the highest suicide rate among adolescents. And the elderly too are more vulnerable than ever before. Many are isolated physically and psychologically from the mainstream of life. They have experienced the death of loved ones and often are struggling to live within a fixed and meager income.

Sadly, old and young share a fate in our country that diminishes us as a people. Too often, they are relegated to the back burner of our Nation's business. Too often, each age group is told that their needs cannot be met; that they should be seen and not heard. Too often, the elderly and children are pitted against one another in the parceling out of resources, as if they were competing rather than complementary groups in our culture.

Too often, people ask me about the conflict between the old and the young. I say it is not a conflict, it should be a complementary relationship.

Look at the face of a grandmother or grandfather when they are with their grandchildren. The joy, the exhilaration in their hearts of just being with those second children, as it were. The first children are grown up now and becoming fathers and mothers.

They become responsible citizens themselves. Now, here, they have these little children. They have the pleasure of holding a little boy, a little girl in their arms. What a thrill for the grandparents and also what a thrill for the grandchildren.

We often talk about foster grandparents. I think maybe grandchildren should have a right with respect to an elderly person whom have come to love, of saying, "Mr. Jones would you be willing to become my honorary grandfather? Miss Jones, would you be willing to become my honorary grandmother?"

What a joy it would be if they could establish that sort of relationship, although not founded in blood.

So, today, we will talk about this with a panel that are familiar with both sides, the old and the young. We will talk about this problem of the old and the young living together in love and friendship and cooperation.

[The prepared statement of the chairman follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF CHAIRMAN CLAUDE PEPPER

Today I turn 82. Birthdays are a reflective time, and this morning I find myself thinking back many years to my childhood and to the friends and relatives who helped me to learn about life and about myself. I remember so vividly sitting by my grandfathers who had served in the Civil War and asking them to share with me again and again their stories of glory and sadness. Our two generations came together during those hours, and we touched each other's lives forever.

Our Aging Committee also crosses the generations this morning to explore a relationship that profoundly affects the very life of America and may have the greatest impact of all on our future as a society. The natural bond between old and young is as basic and primitive as the most ancient of cultures, and yet as fragile and tenuous as a new born infant under the pressures of modern life. Ask any of us, child or old man, whether we have had chances to see and know one another and to learn from one another, and we will answer "Not often enough."

The old and young may soon become strangers. We have separate quarters these days—separate homes, separate functions, separate lives. The extended family of fifty years ago had to give way to the realities of modern life. Today one out of eight children lives in a single-parent home, and an estimated four out of ten children born in the 1970's will live in a single-parent home during part of their lifetimes. The interaction that was natural to families in decades past when children often worked alongside their parents and grandparents and three generations might share the same home is no longer with us. The practicalities of our mobile and transient society provide fewer and fewer natural opportunities to share. And never has the need to share feelings and support been greater.

Children of this decade are living through a period of great confusion. They are experiencing the psychological conflicts of the highest divorce rate in our history and the highest suicide rate among adolescents. And the elderly too are more vulnerable than ever before. Many are isolated physically and psychologically from the mainstream of life. They have experienced the death of loved ones and often are struggling to live within a fixed and meager income.

Sadly, old and young share a fate in our country that diminishes us as a people. Too often they are relegated to the back-burner of our nation's business. Too often each age group is told that their needs cannot be met; that they should be seen and not heard. Too often the elderly and children are pitted against one another in the parceling out of resources, as if they were competing rather than complementary groups in our culture.

Our distance is hurting us. We don't know one another very well. In surveys conducted to discover children's perceptions of the elderly, many viewed old people as wrinkled, helpless, and passive. Most little children could not name an older person they knew other than their own grandparents; and many talked about their own

aging with distaste and regret. Our culture will only develop a healthy and positive attitude toward aging when our children begin to view their own futures with enthusiasm and understanding. We do not want our children to associate old people with fear and loneliness, but rather with the vitality and strength that the old have to share with them.

When the elderly were asked how they felt about children, they expressed largely positive feelings calling the young "the hope in our future." but we cannot deny the other side of the picture. many elderly have great fear of the young, especially teenagers, because they or some of their peers have been victimized by juvenile crime. They are wary and often withdraw from interaction with the young. Many are still thrown into conflict by a national prioritizing that refuses to recognize the fundamental needs of all of our people. The "Either/Or" syndrome has hurt both the old and young.

Today we explore ways to bridge the distance between old and young. We are honored that witnesses ranging from age 13 on up to a riper age have taken the time to be with us to talk about this subject. Our witnesses today are living evidence that old and young have great riches to share with one another, and that we are creatively and fruitfully seeking new ways to bring our two age groups together. These people here today and the many others they represent are powerful symbols that the natural affinity between old and young need not die out for want of light and air.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Marks, would you have any statement? We would welcome your statement.

STATEMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE MARC L. MARKS

Mr. MARKS. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

I was just saying what an auspicious occasion it is to be here with the chairman today. We are pleased to have such extraordinary and outstanding witnesses.

Mr. Chairman, we all acknowledge that this is an extraordinary day because this is your 82d birthday. I had prepared, as always happens, as you know, by some of my extraordinary staff members, some very outstanding words about the witnesses and about the things we are going to hear about today called "Aging Together."

Mr. Chairman, if you will permit me, I would like to take these words and discard them for a moment to say a few things to you. I will be leaving the Congress of the United States.

The CHAIRMAN. To my profound regret.

Mr. MARKS. Thank you. In early January of this year. I just wanted you to know that of all the great things that have happened to me and to my family, part of it to a very large extent has been to know you, to work with you, and to work for you. You, who work so very hard, every moment of your life, for those who are aging, and to bring together those who are young with those who are aged.

I can't think of an experience in my lifetime, any experience certainly since I have been in the Congress of the United States, that has given me quite so much understanding into the human feeling of people than I have gained from being at your side for these 6 years.

I thank you for that. I thank you for all of us and wish you many, many more years of good health, much happiness, in the happiness you bring to all of us and I think everyone here would agree with that.

[The prepared statement of Representative Marc L. Marks follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE MARC LINCOLN MARKS

Mr. Chairman, this is a most auspicious occasion. First, we celebrate another milestone in your life. All of us today recognize that this is the beginning of your 82nd year. We applaud the stamina with which you serve and we look to you, as do most other Americans, as a role model for those involved in the business of aging. But more important, today you are doing what brings you the most joy, and that which brings purpose to your life. It seems that by examining the aging process you have found the secrets to the fountain of youth. Your hard work and dedication seem to enliven your spirit and you are an example to all who serve with you.

The topic you have chosen for today's hearing is most appropriate. At the 1981 White House Conference on Aging, the United States Postal Service introduced a new stamp with the heading "Aging Together." That stamp has recently been released and it shows a family with an infant, a small child and grandparents. The need to re-constitute the family as a unit has never been more important.

As a child many of us had the opportunity to live near or with our grandparents. Our grandparents provided a different perspective on life. They were there to guide us, to show us new ideas and to give us the very special things in life that a family, when it is just the parents and the children, may not be able to provide. At the same time, the child gave much to the grandparents. He brought tremendous joy to that person. His boundless energy was an example for what was, but more importantly, for what could be. The child provided the necessary link between the past, the present, and the future.

If we can reestablish those family relationships, the caring that took place between parents and grandparents and between children and grandchildren, we may be able to solve many of the other problems that are confronting our society. The family can provide the necessary home and community based care that the older person needs. The older person, on the other hand may be able to share his home with his children and grandchildren. The joining together of the family, whether it be in an urban or a rural setting, will help reduce the isolation that is so devastating to the older person. Also, the family may be able to provide the necessary link that the older person needs to participate more fully in society.

By fostering and strengthening the family, and the natural inter-generational relationships which will follow, we allow all individuals to continue to make a contribution to society. Those contributions will, of course, be different for each individual and for each family; however, collectively they will go a long way to developing the necessary understanding between the generations and they will benefit society as a whole.

Mr. Chairman, once again you have demonstrated to all of us your concern for the older person and for his place in our future. I thank you for the opportunity to participate in this hearing and to learn from both the young and the old who will testify this morning.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much.

Mr. Marks, I am very grateful to you for what you have said. Of course, I very highly esteem you as a Member of the House of Representatives and as a personal friend. You are one of the men I have seen grow spiritually since I have been in this House.

All of our colleagues, I am afraid, are not entitled to that accolade. You have grown in your appreciation of the meaning of humanity and humanitarianism, of the meaning of our obligation to people to try to make life a little better and especially to try to make the last part of the long journey of life healthy and happy. So my heartfelt wishes will go with you and God bless you.

Mr. MARKS. Thank you very much. I appreciate those words.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Wyden.

STATEMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE RON WYDEN

Mr. WYDEN. Let me tell you how much I appreciate being here on this special occasion for all Americans. It helps inspire senior citizens and young people.

I will touch a little more on the subject of a special birthday later on in the day, but I am particularly pleased that we are hold-

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ing this hearing, because I think if we are going to attack the problems of this country, economic problems, other problems, you have got to unite the generations, you have got to bring younger and older people together.

As you said, there is just too much in this country that pits young people against old people. We saw that in the mandatory retirement fight. The defenders of mandatory retirement said you have to push all the old people out the door to let the young people in.

That is the whole thesis of mandatory retirement. It is wrong, it is contrary to what this country's system is all about. It just doesn't have to be this way.

Mr. Chairman, as you know, I was director of the Gray Panthers for 7 years before I came to the Congress. You helped us extensively. It is a group dedicated to younger and older people working together.

We did things, for example, like help younger people and senior citizens pool their funds so they could go in on high-interest savings accounts. That is the kind of thing that helps both generations. Both were able to get a good rate of return on their money, and I hope we will hear suggestions like that today, concrete ways in which senior citizens and young people can work together because when you look at the problems that confront the Congress—for example, social security, where young people and senior citizens both have a contract with the Government, we are going to need your help, we are going to need your insight and I just look forward to hearing your specific thoughts on how we can unite the generations in this country.

Again, Mr. Chairman, happy birthday and we will look forward to many more in the future. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much, Mr. Wyden.

Mr. Lungren?

STATEMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE DAN LUNGREN

Mr. LUNGREN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am not going to make a statement. I would very much like to hear from our panel here this morning. Other than to say ditto to all those nice things that have been said about you, and the celebration of your birthday today.

It is an inspiration to a lot of people that we do not have a mandatory retirement here in the House of Representatives, or the U.S. Senate or in the White House and perhaps we should get on with the business of making sure that that is the case throughout the land.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much, Mr. Lungren.

Mr. Frank?

STATEMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE BARNEY FRANK

Mr. FRANK. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

On my way to Washington this morning, at the airport, I encountered Dr. Mary Jane England, who is the commissioner of the Department of Social Services for Massachusetts. She has within her jurisdiction the programs that affect young people who are trou-

bled and she said, "You know, I can sum up what I am really hoping to get in Washington in one sentence. I wish we could get a Claude Pepper for children," and I think that statement epitomizes the role you have played and it is coincidental that Dr. England had to say that.

She didn't know that is what I was going to be doing today but her statement that the best thing that could happen to young people in this country would be if someone could become the Claude Pepper for children is a very noble goal. I think for you to have set that standard by your compassionate, sensitive advocacy on behalf of older people is probably the greatest tribute that can be paid to someone.

So I am very delighted to be here, I am delighted to celebrate your birthday and I hope we can complete the celebration of your birthday by overriding that insensitive veto of the senior aid program tomorrow.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much, Mr. Frank.

Mr. Daub?

STATEMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE HAL DAUB

Mr. DAUB. Good morning, Mr. Chairman, and let me join my colleagues in wishing you indeed not just this happy birthday, but indeed many more.

I am delighted to have a chance to ask you to allow my statement for this very important hearing to be placed into the record, if you would.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. DAUB. I would say I am extremely interested in what the witnesses have to say, because I think the relationships between the young and old, this interrelationship between our generations, is critical.

I think, for example, in our Income Tax Code, if you think about it, we are pitting the young against the old with many of the deductions, exemptions, shelters, and other things that we have built into that code. We have to start taking a look at this.

It may not directly affect someone as young as Ben Jorgensen, but if he starts to think about it, it will, as he grows and starts to shoulder an even heavier tax load because of the fewer deaths, fewer births relationship our society faces.

We will have fewer workers reaching age 18 and entering the work force, shouldering indeed an even higher per capita burden with respect to taxes.

The time has come to reinvigorate the role of the family in all the aspects of our lives and particularly in the care of our elderly. Demographic changes including the divorce rate, need to be studied and I am anxious to hear the witnesses today, Mr. Chairman.

[The prepared statement of Representative Hal Daub follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE HAL DAUB

Thank you Mr. Chairman. I appreciate this opportunity to speak on a topic that affects all of us—the relationships between the young and the old; the interaction between generations.

The time has come to reinvigorate the role of the family in all aspects of our lives, and particularly in the care of our elderly. Demographic changes, such as an increase in the divorce rate, a decrease in the birth rate, and a greater participation

of women in the work force, have an impact on the ability of the family to care for an elderly dependent. In addition, nursing home care and other formal care alternatives have been emphasized in government policy. For example, adult children are no longer financially responsible for their elderly parents once the parents are on Medicaid in a nursing home. It is time for greater reliance on informal, natural support services such as the family.

This informal support can be emphasized by such means as promoting the care of the elderly in the home by relatives. We must support legislation that would encourage adult children to choose home care over nursing home care for their parents. We can no longer afford policies which discourage and inhibit the natural tendency of family members to care for one another. A December 1981 report on long term care by the Service Delivery Assessment unit in the Department of Health and Human Services' Office of the Inspector General found strong support for the idea of tax incentives for families providing care at home to their elderly and disabled members. In fact, the expansion of home health care and the allowing of tax credits to families who care for their older loved ones received the second- and third-highest rankings, respectively, among the 668 various recommendations formulated by the 1981 White House Conference on Aging.

I have cosponsored legislation, H.R. 5531, that would provide tax credits to families with certain disabled dependents and encourage the establishment of home health programs. It has been found that even community home health programs actually encourage informal care givers to continue their assistance through support from home health care staff.

This legislation would provide immediate assistance to those who are already taking care of an elderly relative or who are contemplating the alternative. But just as important, it would help change the assumption today that nursing home care is the primary source of care for our elderly. Home health care should not be seen as an alternative to nursing home care, but rather nursing home care should be seen as the last alternative to home care.

Increased contact between young and old, particularly in a live-in situation, is extremely beneficial. Kids can do a lot for their parents and grandparents. Dr. Arthur Kornhaber, a New York child psychiatrist, extolls the benefits of a child-grandparent relationship. He says, "If the relationship is a close one with frequent walks, talks, games, crafts and community explorations, the grandkid can gain an enormous sense of confidence, compatability with others, solidness and roots. Of course, it's beneficial for the grandparents, too. Grandkids treat the grandfolks as the center of the universe and, in doing so, revitalize them." Those who've lived with the elderly report gaining a great sense of satisfaction. They also say it lets their children share experiences as well as gain an understanding of the aging process. The older person is less isolated and usually enjoys a better quality of life.

It is my hope that this hearing will bring an increased awareness of the importance of the family, including the benefits of a close extended family relationship. We must all keep in mind in our relations with our elderly that we too will be older. With this awareness, we may be able to treat our elderly with the respect they deserve.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much, Mr. Daub.

Mrs. Fenwick?

STATEMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE MILLICENT FENWICK

Mrs. FENWICK. Happy birthday, maybe you and I are the only ones who can look at all the young striplings around this bench and say that nobody should give up. You are not just an example of advocacy, Mr. Chairman, you are an example of something that I think is a most important truth and that is that it is the spirit that counts.

Without it there is nothing, nothing worthwhile, nothing, but you can have—age 25 or 30, if you want, you can certainly have an early old age at 40 and what you and I, of course—most particularly you, Mr. Chairman—are an example.

Travel around this country. Your whole entity and effort—it is not just your advocacy, it is your example, what you mean, and

what you have brought to the legislation that affects those of us who said goodby to 65 long ago. It is very important.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much, Mrs. Fenwick. I appreciate very much what you said. You are a beautiful example of one who will never grow old in the usual sense, because you will always have a beautiful young spirit.

Before we proceed with our panel, I would like to submit for the record the prepared statement of our colleague, Congressman Roybal. Hearing no objection, so ordered.

[The prepared statement of Representative Edward R. Roybal follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE EDWARD R. ROYBAL

Mr. Chairman, it gives me great pleasure to be here at such a unique and important hearing. It is so in keeping with your style that as you celebrate your 82nd birthday today, you are spending the day's hours in a useful effort to rebuild bonds between the old and the young in our society. I am pleased to join in the tributes to you Mr. Chairman and to extend to you my heartiest best wishes on this happy occasion.

The presence of our older generation giving legacy to "future America" here before us, punctuates in a living manner, the importance of keeping the old and the young together.

Our generation grew and developed within families where the grandparents were an intimate part of the family unit. Where the relationship between young and old create a bond which was second in influence and emotional power only to the relationship between parent and child. The closeness between a grandparent and a child forges upon each other a form of immunity that no one else can give. When a grandparent and a child establish a deep emotional attachment, the young person's concept of the elderly is not perceived as anonymous and distant. A child's value system does not judge a person's value on the basis of age or disability.

Today's changing family's patterns, along with increasing transition have separated and isolated both the young and the old.

The much talked about conflict between the young and the old does not stand up in the light of the following findings:

80 and 83 percent of the 18–24 and 25–39 year olds, respectively, agree strongly that "Nobody should be forced to retire because of age, if he wants to continue working and is still able to do a good job."

69 percent disagree that "Older people should retire when they can to give younger people more of a chance on the job."

By 48–41 percent, 18–39 year olds agree that "Social Security taxes should be raised if necessary to provide adequate income for the elderly."

70 percent of this young group believe that retired older Americans have too little or no influence in this country today.

The younger public seems to express deeper concern about the severity of the aged's problems than do the aged themselves.

One of our many efforts to preserve and encourage relationships between old and young is the funding for Title V of the Older Americans Act. Title V provides employment for 54,200 older Americans. One of their most cherished work is the day care center where they not only stop the segregation of the old from the young, but enrich the children with an enormous sense of confidence, compatibility with others, healthy attitudes, creative development. In a word, solid roots. Together they are forming a renewed social contract so badly needed by our society today.

This is one reason why this week we will make every effort to override the President's veto of H.R. 6863, Supplemental Appropriations bill which includes $211 million for Title V funds.

I certainly look forward to the testimony of our distinguished witnesses.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, we have a panel here. As I call your names, will you please proceed with your statement. We are very proud of this excellent panel we have here today—a very representative panel and one that can spread much information about the subject with which we are concerned.

First is Dr. Fitzhugh Dodson, a practicing child psychologist. He also has several bestselling books on families, including "How to Parent", "How to Father," and most recently, "How to Grandparent." Dr. Dodson is father of three children and a graduate of Yale and Johns Hopkins Universities. He received his Ph. D. from the University of Southern California.

Dr. Dodson, we will be pleased to have you as our leadoff spokesman on the panel today.

STATEMENTS OF FITZHUGH DODSON, PH. D., CHILD PSYCHOLOGIST; DOUG McKEON, ACTOR; BOB KEESHAN (CAPTAIN KANGAROO), ACTOR; BEN JORGENSEN, REPORTER, CHILDREN'S EXPRESS; LEE SALK, PH. D., CHILD PSYCHOLOGIST; LAURA ALBRANT AND DORIS FREESE, CHANNEL 1, ROCHESTER, MINN.

STATEMENT OF FITZHUGH DODSON

Dr. DODSON. Thank you, Chairman Pepper.

I want to make an impromptu remark. Chairman Pepper, when I was in high school, growing up in Baltimore, I became a fan of yours and the work you were doing in our Government and I have continued to be a fan all these years.

If you will accept the analogy, I really stand in awe and amazement at people like you and the jazz greats who I was also a fan of in high school, such as Yank Lawson, Bobby Haggart, and Bud Freeman. And I am amazed still in 1982, today, they can play the trumpet and bass and tenor sax the way they did when I was a high school kid.

So I am amazed at you, sir, that you have continued all these years to put out the same kind of incredible administrative capacity and ability to think well ahead of your time.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much, Doctor.

Dr. DODSON. Chairman Pepper and members of the Aging Committee, I am Dr. Fitzhugh Dodson, and I want to talk with you this morning about the waste of America's most valuable resource: Old people, middle-aged people, and young people, sometimes called grandparents, parents, and children. Many of these vital people are failing to maximize the great potential within them: To become the people they could be through interaction with one another. Too often, the lines of communication between the generations don't operate effectively, if at all, because sensitive and caring individuals have not learned the skills necessary to share their knowledge and feelings with the other generations. The costs of this failure are very great.

You can see it most vividly if you look in the window of a nursery at a large hospital. You look upon a group of babies a few days old. They are sleeping and being fed; they are happy and content. You are jolted by the realization that when they grow up, 1 of 10 will spend part of his life in a mental hospital. One of ten may become an alcoholic. One of three will experience the tragedy of divorce. Other millions who will never set foot in a psychiatrist's office or criminal justice court, will, week after week, month after month, year after year, lead what Thoreau called "lives of quiet desperation."

America is a strange place. We would not dream of letting our industries turn out airplane parts or refrigerators that are defective or dangerous. But we allow problem people to come rolling off the parental assembly line every year without a murmur. None of us plans to bring children into the world who will grow up with such serious problems. Any parents you know would be horrified at the thought that they might fail to provide their own children with what they need. And yet, as a society, we have failed to teach parents how to be parents. We have failed to teach the complex skills needed to raise a child from birth to adolescence.

I don't mean to imply that our situation is a hopeless one. On the contrary, as serious as our challenges are, we are in a position to meet them and enhance the lives of our children and families. Our three generations, grandparents, parents, and children, because of age and psychological positions in the family, have unique qualities to contribute to the total family group and to each other. Each of us has something to teach one another and to learn from one another if we are able to communicate in a free and nondefensive way. And the children can only be healthier and happier as the result.

We are all aware that too often in the modern nuclear family the generations live in psychologically watertight compartments, separate from one another. It seems clear that we must go beyond that structure if we are going to get the most out of the emotional and intellectual enrichment the three generations can offer one another.

That is why I talk about the new extended family, one in which each of us can participate. I believe it is at the heart of the subject this morning. The new extended family can help give maturity, enrichment, and stability to the family as a unit. That is vitally important in this era of bewildering change.

This new family differs from our traditional notions of the extended family because all three generations do not live under the same roof. And, in fact, they don't necessarily have to be of the same family. Frankly, our sentimental notion of the extended family has never really taken into account the enormous pressures and conflicts often experienced by family members in those close quarters. Imagine what kind of psychological knots were created when grown children and their parents or parents-in-law differed as to the day-to-day running of a household or the raising of children. Think of the torn loyalties and confusing signals. Pressures of that nature were sometimes an obstruction to happy family life. Those kinds of conflicts, as well as our change from a rural to an urban society, our increased mobility, and the emergence of the working woman have all combined to make that version of the extended family an unlikely one for our society.

The new extended family members are people who care about one another and have much to share, grandparents, as well as parents, who learn to relate to children; to talk to them, and—it is not always so easy—to listen. It is often necessary in the new extended family for the older generation to understand the complexities of divorce and single-parent homes and provide support, rather than unsolicited advice. It requires the ability to desensitize oneself to problem situations in the family that are not one's personal con-

cern and to know when to "butt out." Incidentally, I think just about everybody hates to face things frankly and it was very interesting that in the original speech, it was, "butt out," but when it was typed and Xeroxed, it was changed to "bud out." The new extended family can only work if the parents, grandparents, or surrogate family members have the skills and learning to communicate their strength to one another.

Our children's schools teach them such fascinating and important topics as the geography of Brazil and the capitals of the 50 States. But they are not taught how to communicate with their parents or grandparents, how to deal with an alcoholic father or a family splitting at the seams through divorce. Our schools can do more for our children than fill them with facts.

Now, I want to make a kind of a compliment here. In a sense, you recognize I talk about my concept of the new concept of the new extended family in a somewhat abstract way.

In my book, "How to Grandparent," I give very specific directions as to how people can form a new extended family. Those of you not familiar with publishers and publishing houses will not know that in addition to a promotion department of the publisher there is also an antipromotion department.

The antipromotion department's job is to keep quiet about the book so nobody hears about it. So if you want to find out more about it, I am going to fly right in the face of the antipromotion department and tell you you can turn to that book.

Our society should train people for their vocations as parents and grandparents, as well as respond to the needs of our children. High school students should be taught what is involved in parenting, so when and if they decide to take on the role, they can do so seriously and thoughtfully. Evening classes in parenting and grandparenting throughout the Nation would better equip each of us with the essential skills to guide our children. We should offer on-the-job training for grandparents, particularly in view of the rising number of divorces and the increasing role of grandparents in raising children. We need to experiment with the concept of the new extended family, using the virtues of the old extended family while avoiding its faults.

I know this is a big job. It will take enormous effort, time, and money. But after all, we got to the Moon, didn't we?

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much, Dr. Dodson. That was a very thoughtful statement, and a valuable one. Perhaps it will be the subject of inquiry a little later.

We will proceed with the rest of the panel.

Our next panel member is Mr. Douglas McKeon. Sixteen-year-old Doug has been acting for over 11 years, and most recently appeared as Billy Ray in the film, "On Golden Pond." We can never forget that beautiful movie. I will never forget you and your mother and father, Henry Fonda and wife.

My sister saw it three times and she took me to see it. I think she has been back a time or two since that time.

He attended public high school and is one of six children, all of whom are involved in the theater. You are almost like the Barrymore family. You have already had a distinguished career. We hope you have many exciting years ahead of you.

We will be pleased to hear your statement.

STATEMENT OF DOUG McKEON

Mr. McKEON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also would like to wish you the very best on your birthday and hope many more continue.

As Chairman Pepper said, my name is Doug McKeon, I am 16 years old and attend public high school in New Jersey. I am the third oldest of six children, and all of us are involved in the acting profession. I have been acting professionally for the past 11½ years.

I have had the privilege and honor to work with many fine people during the course of my career. One recent opportunity that you may be aware of is my role in "On Golden Pond" with the late Henry Fonda, Katharine Hepburn, and Jane Fonda. Any actor would have considered it an honor to work with such legends. But for a 14-year-old—for me—it was a special privilege. In terms of my career, that performance was a breakthrough. I was welcomed very warmly by the public and somehow people begin to say, "Look, there is someone else here." Although I was known to the directors and actors, I wasn't readily recognized by the public. My performance meant much more to me than that. I believe you should never stop learning. I learned just by being with actors and individuals of their stature and just by watching them. Throughout this film, my respect for Henry Fonda and Katharine Hepburn deepened and my personal feelings about older people crystallized.

My grandfather was on the set of "Golden Pond" with me. I have always felt admiration and love for my grandfather, but this experience helped me to understand my feelings and how much he means to me. I had always seen my grandfather as a timeless person. He is 79 years old, but he looks very young and he is full of energy. He is the opposite of the stereotype that so many people have of old people, that they are slow or crotchety. But I realized that because he was always there and had been my chaperone in practically every movie I have done that I had overlooked the possibility that he would get older and that he won't always be with me. We have a special relationship. We give to each other. He teaches me what he has learned over so many years and so much experience. I teach him what I learn today and what might be happening this minute.

On that set in scenes with Henry Fonda, I began to realize my own relationship was much more, much deeper than I had known. There is a scene in the movie when Mr. Fonda's character, Norman Thayer, and my character, Billy Ray, have a boat accident. I saw myself caring during those moments filming, the way I would for my own grandfather. It is inevitable to learn more and more when you are working like this. But instead of my learning about cameras, I was learning about myself and what matters most to me.

I used to watch Mr. Fonda on the set. Every morning he would shake hands with every member of the crew and make each person feel he was important. We would sometimes sit together waiting for scenes, and I would look for ways I could do things for him, if only to get him an apple or a cup of coffee. He called me his little

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dwarf, and everyone on the crew knew who he was talking about. When he became ill, I wanted very much to see him. My agent and I went to the hospital. Mrs. Fonda called me aside and said, "Henry is very sick. We just want to keep this to family, so you go in alone, without your friend." And I did. And Henry said, "Look who is here. It is my little dwarf." Henry Fonda became another grandfather to me. I hope if I am lucky enough to live a long life that I will be as poised, intelligent, and gifted a man as he was.

I am very fortunate. I have much more chance to be with my own grandfather than most of my friends have. They sometimes overlook the fact that young and old are vital figures to each other. We give each other a great deal of satisfaction. We grow from each other. My grandfather gives me insight into how to approach things. It is not immature. It is direction, things I can learn from his experience.

It is like when Henry Fonda teaches Billy Ray—me—to fish. Billy Ray had never done it before. He is a streetwise kid. He took to the streets to learn because his dad never had time for him. Billy is 13 and changing. It is the time when his interests are peaking higher and higher. He wants to feel and be responsible for things. He and Norman gain so much from one another. Norman gets softer and warmer. And Billy Ray finds himself telling Norman Thayer, "Norman, I love you." He never thought he would say that to an older person. And Norman says the same thing back to Billy in subtle ways as he changes throughout the whole film. He begins to learn about the boy and to see the loss of never sharing his time and experience with someone who wants and needs it so badly. In the end, Billy Ray gave Norman Thayer a renewed interest in life, and Norman Thayer broadened Billy's horizons showing him that the boy was not "dumped" but truly loved.

I really believe that the young and old are generations at the crossroads. They meet. They have so much to share. The strain that sometimes exists between them, like that between Norman and Billy Ray, is a joint responsibility. They both have to make the effort to respect one another and to give of themselves. The young have time to plan, learn and experience things of the world. The old must find the time to share their experiences and to help channel the aspirations of the young toward fruitful ends. The young must feel a sense of worth while the elderly must retain their pride in feeling needed.

It is very sad when you realize that often parents are so involved in producing material benefits for their children that their children are deprived of the joys of their presence. And later, those same parents become grandparents and retire to some old age oasis and their grandchildren are deprived of their presence; and they themselves lose the joy of sharing with the young. They become the "forgotten generation" twice removed. I don't think it should happen that way. The elderly must be willing to give of themselves. The young must be receptive.

Kids my age want to be kids. I love to play more than I love to work. I can't wait to play baseball and basketball and spend time with my friends. Sometimes we just don't like to realize the responsibilities we have and even try to ignore them. A lot of kids have drug problems and don't want to recognize how serious it is and dig

themselves deeper and deeper into a hole. Older people can guide us. They can help us be more realistic and honest with ourselves. They can encourage us in positive directions and love us. And we won't walk away from it.

I think one of the biggest problems older people have is they sometimes feel useless. "What do I do now that I am 70 or 75?" That is just wrong. They have so much to give us and we need them. I watched a fine actor on television the other night and he was talking about a recent trip he had taken that made a powerful impression on him. And he said how selfish it would be for him not to share what he had gained through that experience with others. I feel that way. How can I explore something I have never seen before and not share it, not talk about it? When I came back from Germany recently after filming there, I couldn't wait to tell my buddies about it and what I had learned. When I think of the wealth of living that older people have done and the experiences they have had, I know it is right that they should share it with the young.

In a future film called "The Undergraduates," I will be taking the part of a college freshman who enrolls his grandfather in college rather than have him placed in an old-age home. A professor ridicules the grandfather for not giving him the "right answer" in a history lesson known as "The Depression." My grandfather is unshaken. "You only know what you read in the history books. I was there." And that makes all the difference.

The CHAIRMAN. A beautiful statement. We all appreciate it.

Our next witness will be Mr. Bob Keeshan. As Captain Kangaroo, Mr. Keeshan was working with young people every morning for nearly 30 years. He may be the most visible "older person" in the hearts and minds of two generations of children.

Mr. Keeshan is the father of three children and grandfather of two. We are delighted to have you here, Captain Kangaroo, and we welcome your statement.

STATEMENT OF BOB KEESHAN

Mr. KEESHAN. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. May I add my congratulations and best wishes on this wonderful occasion. You, indeed, were one of this century's gifts to mankind, and your life's work has been felt by everyone in this Nation.

We are all very grateful. To this Nation, you have been a real pepper-upper indeed.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much.

Mr. KEESHAN. I was also particularly interested in Mr. Frank's comments about the needs in this Nation for a Claude Pepper for children. Children do not have any political power, they are impotent, they are silent in expressing their needs, and yet children are the future of the Nation.

What our Nation will be a quarter of a century from now will depend very much upon how we in adult society treat our young people and that, of course, includes government.

So the Lord would be very good to this Nation if he were to bestow or find somewhere in this Congress a Claude Pepper for young people.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you.

Mr. KEESHAN. When "Captain Kangaroo" first entered homes on October 3 in 1955, it was no accident that the 28-year-old actor who portrayed the Captain resorted to the magic of makeup to add 30 years to his actual age, and became a television grandfather to the first of several generations of American children. I was that young, 28-year-old actor, and now in the 28th year of broadcast for the Captain, the extensive makeup is not quite so necessary. I have, quite literally, grown into the part.

In designing the program those many years ago, I wanted to be able to communicate to young Americans the positive values of American life, to relay to them, to model for them, the kindness and gentleness which make it possible for us, as humans, to share a life in this world. I wanted to excite them about their future, to make them know that great accomplishment was within their reach, to cause young people to feel of value, to know love.

To pass on such values I needed a vehicle, a conduit, and I had always been impressed by the warmth possible in the relationship between a grandparent and child. Gray was added to my then brown hair, and consequently warmth was added to my character. It worked and worked well. The intergenerational relationship, Captain to young person, was a valued relationship then and is valued today by the children of those first children in the Captain's audience. This adoption of the grandparent's role was almost accidental, resulting from the warm relationship I enjoyed with my grandparents, as a child, and from personal and unscientific observation. As I have matured in the grandfatherly role of the Captain, I have also become more aware of the complexity of the literature on the subject and the danger of generalization.

The role of grandparent is far from being a static role. As society changes, so does grandparenting change, to accommodate these changes. Some of these changes are cited by Bernice Neugarten and Karol Weinstein in their excellent paper, "The Changing American Grandparent." There do seem to be some constants, however, despite the climate of change. In his book, "Gerontology: A Behavioral Science Approach," Richard Crandall states that "most grandchildren seem to have strong affection toward their grandparents." He cites Joan Robertson's study, finding that most "grandchildren claimed that they visited their grandparents out of love and out of the pleasure of being with them."

This relationship, then, seems to be one where the flow of love and caring is natural. What happens, in our society, to change the values naturally inherent in the relationship? Some of the changes are the consequence of the way we treat many of our children. A child who is abused, beaten, starved, sexually molested or otherwise victimized, is incapable of any normal relationship, including a close and warm relationship with an elderly person. Our society creates in such children aggression and hate and sends them into the world of adolescence and adulthood to plunder society. These are the felonies of child abuse, but there are the misdemeanors of child abuse, of which we all have been guilty.

We are often too busy in today's society to give children the one thing they require of adults, our time, and therefore we often ignore children in their time of greatest need and growth, only to

find at a later stage of their development that they are "into something" and unwilling or unable to communicate. The media are guilty of misdemeanors against children. The television medium, perhaps the most pervasive force other than the home, in influencing the child and affecting the emotional and cultural development of the child, is guilty of many such misdemeanors.

Of particular interest to this committee is the way in which the elderly are often portrayed on television. They are often the butt of the joke or shown as nasty, doddering, and forgetful. No ethnic group would tolerate the abuse the elderly must tolerate in such portrayal. I am particularly concerned about impressions created for young people who watch such programing. They see it in animation, in situation comedies, and in drama. We can, as adults with more education and life experience, watch a comedy sketch and, though offended, know that such material does not represent reality. A young child with a very limited frame of reference is unable to make such judgments. Much of what such a child knows about the world comes from such observations in the television medium and thus unfavorable stereotypes of the elderly are created for our children.

Even a real-life relationship with an elderly person is not enough to erase the damage. A grandmother recently told me of a remark made by her granddaughter, "Nana, you can't be as old as you say you are. You are nothing like the old people on TV." We must make an effort to be more honest in the way we portray the elderly on television, particularly in programing designed specifically for children.

If we are concerned about young people, we should be concerned about the lack of value-oriented programing broadcast for children over American television and we should be concerned about the policies of the present administration which have relieved broadcasters of the obligation to be concerned with the youth of the Nation, and the way they influence our young people, for good or bad.

As I speak to you today, the CBS Radio Network is broadcasting today's episode of "The Subject is Young People," a program that I do five times each week. Today's episode is the first in a two-part series on grandparents. The second will be aired tomorrow and both are intended to help America in its celebration of Grandparents Day on Sunday. I furnish the scripts of these two broadcasts as addenda to this testimony along with other scripts from the CBS radio series which concern themselves with grandparenting. One of these programs, incidentally, was honored with a Gabriel Award.

The radio program's premise is one of my life principles: We are all of us in society responsible for the raising of our children. This responsibility extends beyond parents and grandparents, beyond the family, to the churches, government, the media and corporate America, business large and small. Our young people will grow to be what we cause them to be and when we allow private profit to dominate, we poison the seed corn of this republic.

My great interest in the elderly is personal and an interest born of concern. But another concern, my concern for young people, furnishes an additional motive. It is from my feeling of advocacy for young people that I approach the relationship between the elderly

and the young. I may even be selfish in viewing the elderly as a great resource potential for influencing and cultivating the young of this Nation. If the young have need of our time, and our parents lack that time to give, the grandparent has the time. If the grandparent lacks the time, someone else in that generation has the time. The elderly have the time, the values and the love to give to the young. They will be well rewarded. The young people with whom they relate will reinforce them and revitalize them with the love and affection born in such a relationship. The intergenerational relationship between our young people and our elderly is natural and if we fail to foster it, "what fools we mortals be."

The two generations are in great need of each other. We ought to see that it is engendered. Our Nation will then be a better place for the young, the elderly, and that generation in between.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

[The material submitted by Mr. Keeshan follows:]

ADDENDA: SCRIPTS FROM THE CBS RADIO NETWORK SERIES: "THE SUBJECT IS YOUNG PEOPLE"—BOB KEESHAN, COMMENTATOR

"The Subject Is Young People" is broadcast Monday through Friday on the CBS Radio Network.

Episode 355 "Grandparents" was broadcast on December 4, 1981. This program received a Gabriel Award in 1981.

Episode 413 was broadcast on July 10, 1981, and is a personal contemplation of the sort undertaken by many people who discover they are to be a grandparent.

Episode 548 was broadcast on February 8, 1982, and explores the need for awareness of aging on the part of young people. William Kane, M.D., a family physician cites the need for greater education of the young in this regard.

Episodes 710 and 711 were broadcast on September 8 and 9, 1982 in celebration of Grandparents Day and cited the changing role of grandparents in a changed society.

GRANDPARENTS

EPISODE 355

Hi Ooma, Hi Oompa, Hi nana and gram, Hi papa and popop and bumptee and gammy? Greetings of love from grandchildren to grandparents may sometimes sound strange, but special names go with special people—grandparents. This is Bob Keeshan and The Subject Is Young People on the CBS Radio Network. Grandma, grandpa and their special love, after this.

[Break]

He bounced you on his knee, she fed you lots of cookies, you were smothered with lots of attention, you may have coaxed him into a piggy back ride round the living room, and you loved it. A rememberance of visits to grandma and grandpa those notorious spoilers of children whose bedtime stories were rivaled by none. Grandparents are very special to children and of course the reverse is also true. It's a unique relationship—one of love and caring—one step away from being a parent, one step away from being their child. Grandparents are people with experience—their children are grown and the lottle tot beside them is the lucky recipient of all their knowledge and love. They are often less busy than parents and to play with children is not only fun, but a chance to re-experience childish pleasures. Of course there is the advantage that if the going gets rough, the young ones do have another home, but most grandparents are eager and willing to share much of their time, and the children don't mind at all. For some reason, doing dishes with grammy or raking leaves with poppa are special things to do—not like the chores so onerous at home. But back at home mom and dad must deal with parental responsibility and sometimes this can be difficult. You're trying to teach wise spending with allowances, and grandpa gives them pocket change, grandma bought that doll you had promised for good behavior—she couldn't resist, it was a gift of love and a wish to please. Keeping communication open between parent and grandparent is the key to it all and a pleasant reminder that *you* are the parents—may be appropriate. But as all relationships are give and take, so it is with grandparents, they just give more than others. And what they give young people is not only an unconditional, wonder-

ful love, but an appreciation for those who have grown older. It's important for children to learn that growing older is special—it's a position meriting esteem and respect. So cherish that vision of the old and young, the grandparent and the child—it's a most special friendship that will remain in the heart for a lifetime.

GRANDFATHER

EPISODE 413

No matter what your accomplishments, for most of us, one, if not the greatest thrill in life is the birth of a child. This is Bob Keeshan with The Subject Is Young People on the CBS Radio Network. So you become a parent. You try to be a good parent. You feed and clothe your child, even talk to him occassionally. What happens next? Is there life after parenthood? About that after this.

[Break.]

The life of a father is a busy life. I speak of being a father because I have not had that much personal experience being a mother. I suppose being a mother is not that different from the paternal experience. The baby is born. Much excitement, many congratulations. You do silly things like lock your keys in the car in the hospital parking lot. Then baby comes home and things begin to settle into a routine, if baby is cooperative. Late night feedings and occasional fevers. Fathers worry a lot, as do mothers. Baby grows to toddler stage and fathers are expected to start working on behavioral patterns; socializing the child as the psychologists might say. Older still, your child scrapes skin and breaks bones. Concern over school. Already? Then comes loud music, and it's not Beethoven, closely followed by puppy love and sulking. College and tuition; the annual search for a meaningful summer job that also pays very well with short hours, leaving enough time to "hang out" with the gang. Are they still referred to as "the gang?" Then, finally, the big day. Commencement. How proud can a father be? And the best part, no more tuition. Wrong. After commencement comes graduate school. Will this child ever leave home. Then it does happen. Education finished. No more tuition, except, of course, tuition for your wife who now has the time to pursue her masters degree. Child meets a very special person and you go to a joyful wedding. Gee, this house is quiet. When are they coming to visit? Did anyone telephone? I know I said I would be glad when they're gone, but, gee, this house is quiet. Who was that on the phone? You're kidding. Expecting? When is she due? Wait a minute! That makes me a grandfather. I'm too young, much too young to be a grandfather.

Yes, there is life after parenthood. Grandparenthood may be even better. It brings a sense of continuity to life. Whether it is a name you are passing on or just a distinctive nose, it is continuity. And it's great. Even if I am too young to be a grandfather.

DR. KANE

EPISODE 548

KEESHAN. Staying young is a national preoccupation but growing old is a natural occupation, a natural part of our lives, a growth that deserves respect. This is Bob Keeshan and The Subject Is Young People on the CBS Radio Network. Growing for today and tomorrow, after this.

[Break.]

KEESHAN. Dr. William Kane is a family physician who sees and understands all ages and stages of growth in life. He thinks an awareness of aging is important for young people and that compassion for age should begin at home.

KANE. I think parents have two obligations, one, educate themselves and become more comfortable with aging as a process, and secondly, not isolate children from elderly people, from their problems, from perhaps some of their disabilities. And even in the extreme, not isolate their children from death when it does occur in an elderly grandparent or someone close. All of those processes are important at home.

KEESHAN. He thinks schools can help bring understanding of age.

Dr. KANE. I think that school systems should begin to recognize that eleven or twelve percent of our population is over the age of sixty five now, that in fact that we're faced with older people, the very old people, we have a large number of people now surviving into their eighties and nineties and even over a hundred. I think it's time to admit that something about the aging process, some awareness of what takes place, and some confort and knowledge with children is important in the school system.

KEESHAN. Dr. Kane describes how many elderly people feel.

Dr. KANE. I think probably the best descriptions come from handicapped people who say what it's like to be rejected. And I think that probably is painful for elderly people to have that. On the other hand, I think that often times the elderly may have some physical disability which makes the relationship difficult, especially if the child or the other person doesn't understand the problem. A lot of the elderly have decreased nearing, decreased eyesight, may in fact have periods where they're you know forgetful. And all that needs to be dealt with by someone who understands the process.

KEESHAN. He says that not all, but most elderly people would like a relationship with someone young.

KANE. Not all elderly are going to want this relationship. Some elderly like to be alone, or like to be quiet and don't want the children around. That's fine too. I think there's, you have to accommodate both types. But there are an awful lot of lonely elderly people who would really like to have that relationship, with a young person.

GRANDPARENTS I

EPISODE 710

Sunday will be Grandparents Day—it's the old times day in American homes. This is Bob Keeshan and The Subject Is Young People on the CBS Radio Network. Parents' parents. After this.

[Break.]

Grandparents conjure up words of wisdom, words of love. The relationship between grandparent and grandchild has always been regarded as special. While the responsibilities of parenthood can loom large, the role of grandparent is allowed to be carefree, noncritical, joyful "I'm going to visit Cindy," says the woman passenger on the plane. "She's my first grandchild and a real doll!" Then out come the snapshots of a baby girl lying in a crib, crawling on a carpet, standing beneath her Christimas tree. "I can't wait to see Cindy in this cute little outfit I got here." The mellow, indulgent love a grandparent may give to a grandchild is a love which can be expressed without any strings. It's not for Granny and Gramps to have to deal with the day-to-day disciplining that goes with raising a youngster. Not for them—"Have you done your homework?" "Is your room tidy?" For them, the honeymoon never has to end. Nor do they usually have to be concerned with the family budget, like the juggling of money to allow for a pair of new sneakers, while a much wanted doll or pocket-knife must wait. Instead, a grandparent can be a combination of Santa Claus and the fairy godmother. Sometimes this generosity can cause parental exasperation. "You're spoiling the child," mom and dad might protest—often secretly thinking "you never spoiled me like that." However, occasional spoiling is a time-honored part of being a grandparent, as traditional as that other and far more important part of grandparenting—the gift of time. Time to share with a youngster—to go fishing, to tell stories, or to bake a juicy apple pie. Time to answer a young person's questions, to play a game, or to mend a favorite toy. And even more precious, time to do nothing. To take a stroll together along a beach or by a river. To watch the wind dapple corn growing tall in a field. To contemplate the industrious ways of ants in the backyard.

Such moments may seem aimless but anyone who has had such moments with a grandparent will tell you they are among the best moments in any life.

Tomorrow, thoroughly modern grandma. Bob Keeshan for the "Subject Is Young People" on the CBS Radio Network.

GRANDPARENTS II

EPISODE 711

Being a grandparent—can mean enjoying a child, or it can mean ignoring a child. This is Bob Keesan and The Subject Is Young People on the CBS Radio Network. Thoroughly modern Grandma, after this.

[Break.]

Sunday is Grandparents Day. A special day for being in touch with the family's senior members—either by phone or in person. Once upon a time, going to Grandma's house brought thoughts of a cosy kitchen, homemade gingerbread men, and Grandma—smiling, a little plump, and with white hair. Today's world has changed that picture. Grandma may be smiling but she probably watches her waistline like a hawk, and is more likely to be a glamorous blond than white-haired. Gone, too is the past image of Grandpa sitting in his favorite armchair, puffing on a pipe. These

days, Grandpa is frequently found on the tennis court, the golf course, or scuba diving with his pals. He is probably still involved with a career. Grandma may be a working gal. Thanks to modern medical science, grandparents are hale and hearty, active and busy, as never before. The sweet bird of youth is sticking around for retirement years. Sunnier climes beckon, and many a sixty-five-year-old is discovering the appeal of being footloose and fancy free. Dr. Arthur Kornhaber, a child psychiatrist in Mount Kisco, New York has spent several years studying the relationships between grandparents and grandchildren. His findings show that 80 percent of the youngsters surveyed see their grand parents only occasionally. 15 percent have no contact at all with their grandparents. And the remaining 5 percent constitute the lucky few—the minority who see Grandpa and Grandma at least twice a week or more. Dr. Kornhaber blames our changing times for the situation. In particular, he cites the increase in family mobility and our rising divorce rate. He feels that job relocation and divorce can cause in-laws to be cut off from their grandchildren by distance or by distant feelings. And the lost relationship is a loss on both sides. According to Dr. Kornhaber, most children think highly of their grandparents, thereby revitalizing them. In turn, youngsters can gain a great sense of roots and self-confidence from being with grandparents.

With thoroughly modern grandparents in thoroughly modern America somebody is missing a good thing.

Tomorrow: Take me out to the ballgame with Jay Johnstone of the Chicago Cubs. Bob Keeshan for the "Subject Is Young People" on the CBS Radio Network.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Keeshan, you have given us a very thoughtful and a very able statement, but even more, you have been an inspiration and a salutary influence for a generation or two of our fellow countrymen.

Yours has been a wholesome contribution to our time. We are all deeply indebted to you for what you have done. You will be doing it a long time in the future years. We extend you our best wishes.

Mr. KEESHAN. Thank you, sir. I deeply appreciate those comments.

The CHAIRMAN. Our next witness is Mr. Ben Jorgensen. Ben is 13 years old and has worked as a reporter for Children's Express since he was 10. He was born in England and has lived in North America and Australia for the past 10 years. He attends the United Nations International School.

Ben interviewed me with a lovely young lady some time ago for the Today Show and I very much appreciated getting to know those two youngsters who are great Americans and having the privilege of walking around with them over in the Capitol and showing them some of the meaningful heros of our country.

So I am delighted today that Ben is with us again and we are pleased to hear him.

Ben, we are glad to have you with us.

STATEMENT OF BEN JORGENSEN

Mr. JORGENSEN. Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, ladies and gentlemen. I feel very privileged to be participating in this hearing on "Old and Young: Generations at the Crossroads."

I recently turned 13 and I attend the U.N. International School in New York. I was born in England and have lived in Australia and North America for the past ten years. Since I was 10, I have worked as a reporter for the Children's Express News Service which has given me an opportunity to meet many interesting people, both young and old, and most recently your chairman, Representative Pepper.

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Like many young people who are teenagers today, my concept of family is very different from what it was during my mother's childhood, let alone my grandmother's.

I live with my mother in Manhattan. We are a one-parent, one-child family. But amongst our friends are many surrogate aunts and uncles, cousins, brothers, and sisters. But, I have noticed that with this new idea of family; that is families you choose or adopt because your blood relations are scattered all over the place, there are no surrogate grandparents. Apart from visits once a year or less to my grandmother in Canada, and my grandfather in Australia, I have little contact with people who are of their generation; people in their sixties, seventies, and eighties. Yet I am sure in Manhattan and in my own neighborhood, there must be many old people with whom I could be friends.

In the past, older people passed on history—personal, oral descriptions of the recent past. Now we learn history from books or TV and we miss out on the opportunity to hear about times and events which have shaped our destiny from people who lived it and actually created that history.

Without this personal connection, young people tend to view old people according to stereotyped images; they are doddery, a nuisance, a liability. And the stereotyped image old people have of today's youth is similarly negative. We are presumed to be rude, tough, and disrespectful—also a nuisance and a liability. Young and old people are treated as dependents. We really have a lot in common and should be able to relate to one another very well.

If school history courses included opportunities to discuss, say life 50 years ago with people who were young then, both our lessons and our understanding of those who participated in our own history would be much more vivid and interesting.

Films, TV, advertising, all contribute to forming stereotyped images of young and old people. Popular mass media reinforces negative images, some but not all of which may be real. Not all teenagers are rude and ruthless; not all old people are doddering, frail, and powerless. And even the idea that chronological age should determine how a person behaves seems to me to be wrong, too. Some young people behave and even look, old and jaded. Some old people's behavior and appearance is youthful and lively. How you're expected to be, when you're 17 or 70, isn't necessarily how you feel you want to be.

Why should someone retire simply because of a birthday? Opportunities should not be denied to anyone on such arbitrary grounds as age. And this applies to young people, too. Employment for both groups is a serious problem. We are forced to be a burden on society because we're too young or too old to function properly. Perhaps if the two groups joined forces and worked together, we could solve some of our mutual problems. Retired people, who have much to offer, could pass on their skills and knowledge to young people, who without them, cannot find work easily. They could be companions to one another, rather than lonely, isolated groups who treat each other with fear and contempt.

In 60 years' time, I hope I will have some 13-year-old friends to whom I can say: Way back in another century when I was your age, I went to Washington and discussed why young and old people

did not know or understand one another very well. And I hope my 13-year-old friends will say: How odd. How very old fashioned. And then I will explain to them, that what we discussed here today paved the way for a better understanding.

Before I finish, I would just like to praise the mobile assistance and nutrition program in Portland, Oreg., where children assist handicapped and elderly persons in doing their shopping. I think that more things like this will make a much more enjoyable future for the young and old people in this country.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much. That was a beautiful statement, a very excellent one and when you get up into older years, I think you will have some understanding of the opinions and thoughts and sensations of younger people. It is rather interesting here now that we have heard two young men, one of them 16, Mr. McKeon, and Mr. Jorgensen, 13; and yet here they are already national-international figures, at such an early age. What an interesting, wonderful challenging life you both have ahead of you. Because of your prominence, because people look up to you for your attainments and your successes, you will be able to have a lot of influence upon other people and you will be looked at, very scrutinizingly, by a lot of people. They will ask "How does he behave?" Because a lot of young people will want to behave like you. You are famous, you are well known, you are a great figure and so be careful of your example. What a joy it is to have both of you here today. Everybody that sees each one of you would like to have you as a son or grandson, I am sure.

We will have some questions in a minute, so, thank you very much, Ben.

Mr. JORGENSEN. You are welcome.

The CHAIRMAN. Next is Dr. Lee Salk.

Dr. Salk is a child psychologist and professor of psychology and psychiatry and professor of pediatrics at the New York Hospital Cornell Medical Center. He is author of several books on children and families, including "What Every Child Would Like His Parents to Know" and "Dear Dr. Salk: Answers to Your Questions About Your Family." He also writes a monthly column for McCall's magazine entitled "You and Your Family."

This is an outstanding authority on the family.

We are pleased to have you here. Will you proceed.

STATEMENT OF LEE SALK

Dr. SALK. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Let me congratulate you as well on your birthday and tell you that you have been an inspiring human being to me and I hope that you carry that inspiration to many, many other people for a long time to come.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much.

Dr. SALK. Our greatest human resource is our older population; while our children and youth constitute our greatest asset for the survival of our civilization. The wisdom, experience and sensitivity of our older population about the problems of this life have been overshadowed by modern technology and have served to weaken the importance of human relationships.

Nothing can ever replace human experience and certainly no one but members of our older population can provide our youth with its benefits.

If we lose touch with our past, our heritage, our roots, we will deprive our children of the opportunity to maintain contact with their humanness.

A man I have known and respected, the late Dr. Rene Dubos, respected scientist and professor of microbiology at the Rockefeller University, in his book "So Human An Animal" written when he was approaching his 70th year, states: "The humanness of life depends above all on the quality of man's relationships to the rest of creation—to the winds and the stars, to the flowers and the beasts, to smiling and weeping humanity."

We must remain in touch with our humanness, and that requires respect for relationships between our young and older population. Clearly, by separating our young and older population, we weaken the opportunity of each gaining from the other.

The belief that children and the elderly have little to offer each other, or that they are separated by vastly different interests is totally erroneous. There is nothing more poignant than an exchange between a child and a grandparent or older person. The curiosity of a child concerning how things were a long time ago dovetails with the wisdom of an older person eager to transmit experiences, insights and verbal pictures of what it was like "before you were born." It provides a stage upon which each is important to the other; where each gains a sense of self-esteem. To the child—being brought back in time to experience a sense of history; to the older person—having the attention, respect, and recognition of someone who can carry ideas forward to future generations.

We all need to feel important to others and to be significant in the life of someone else. Children and the elderly have something special to offer each other to meet these needs. There's a special language and a special understanding that takes place when curiosity of the young and the wisdom of the elderly are in tandem.

My daughter, Pia, now 14 years of age, who when she was 11 chose my Aunt Muriel Drukker, who was 82 years of age and lived with us at the time, as the subject of an autobiography for her social studies class. Armed with a tape recorder and a series of challenging questions, she isolated herself with Aunt Muriel at a time when there would be no distractions.

Among her questions were the following: "When did you first realize when you were in love with your husband?"

"How do you feel about the world today?"

"Tell me about school? Did you like it? Why not?"

"If you could go back in your life, how would you change it?"

This interview was an excellent opportunity for each to learn about the other and to raise issues that gave insights into life today and life in years past. A verbatim transcription of the interview, together with old photographs provided by Aunt Muriel, led to the creation of a document of which Pia Salk is proud and a document that Aunt Muriel enjoys showing to her friends which records her life, her joys and her woes.

I have encouraged our educational institutions to have children do biographical studies of this sort and to turn to our older citizens to have them talk of their lives and share of their wisdom.

In the August issue of the monthly subscription newsletter entitled "A Letter from Dr. Lee Salk"—a newsletter I publish to provide information to parents and professionals to make parenting more meaningful to children—I reported on an exchange program between youth and the elderly.

Let me read that report from the Salk letter:

Three years ago, the teachers at Jones Junior High School contacted a local retirement community and proposed a program allowing their 8th graders to interact with the residents for two class periods a day for 5 weeks. Called the "Jones-Village Partnership" and developed, coordinated and directed by Ellen Erlanger of the Upper Arlington School District, the program has been an immense success.

One participating student stated, "I've invited my partner to meet my family next month. I'm glad that I will see her again because she is a terrific person. She is like a grandmother to me."

In a typical week, the students partake in seminars covering the aging process, spend time with their assigned partner, engage in group activities and work on an "oral history," a notebook compiled from taped interviews with the elderly residents. Another student commented, "Having these people tell me what it was like to live through wars and the Depression has helped me more than any text ever could."

Retirement community residents said they enjoyed learning about their local junior high and the activities of young people in their community.

Children often fail to interact in a meaningful way with older people, because families are too busy to get together with grandparents regularly or because distances keep them separated. However, children find a great deal to appreciate in older people, many of whom have a fondness and patience for youth.

Ellen Erlanger, as well as other teachers and community members, believes strongly in the program and feels that it is easily transportable to other areas.

As a leader and legislator, I urge you to encourage programs that bring our children and the elderly together in ways that enhance greater self-respect and respect for the youth.

Everyone needs to feel significant in the light of at least one person in the course of early development. In my years of practice as a psychologist, I cannot tell you how often I have seen a young person survive overwhelming stresses simply because there was a grandparent who cared, understood, and showed loved and acceptance.

Mr. Chairman, I join you in your effort to enable our young to benefit from contact and communication with the wisest, most experienced, most sensitive members of our society—our older people.

I would like to end my remarks by telling you something about a little boy who lives in Columbia, S.C., named Edward Bender, and his loving grandmother, Mrs. Ann Houseal. When he was about 3 years old someone asked him, "Edward, what do you do when you are frightened?" He said, "I close my eyes and think of my Grandma."

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. That is beautiful, Doctor. Thank you very, very much.

I hope other schools will profit by the excellent examples to which you referred. Teachers could give students an assignment in some class; go out and interview some older person and come back and report your interview with that older person.

Maybe a tape-recorded interview or some other interview would give the child a great deal of additional knowledge and it would certainly be an inspiration to the older person. You have opened up many doors of opportunity for exploring this field and for developing it.

Thank you very much.

Dr. SALK. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN. Now let's see; we have next Ms. Laura Albrant and Ms. Doris Freese, participants in channel 1, an intergenerational program in Rochester, Minn., in which young and old work side by side to maintain a food cooperative for senior citizens on a fixed income. Channel 1 originated as a drug abuse prevention program to involve young people in positive activities as an alternative to drug use.

May I just add, they tell me that about half of the arrests for serious crime are of people under 18 years of age: young people. About 9 out of 10 of them are school dropouts. I was just thinking, I dare say, that if you look at the lives of those school dropouts, you wouldn't find many grandparents or perhaps two-family parents of those school dropouts. Somehow we should interest the elderly in trying to save these young people from a life of crime. Unfortunately, many elderly people are frightened of the young because they too often snatch their purses or assault them or rob them, beat them up, sometimes kill them.

But if we could have some sort of an understanding relationship between them so that older people would try to help them while they are still not incorrigible, not hopelessly over the dam of crime and years of criminality, much good could result.

So this is a very interesting project about which you are going to tell us. We welcome your statements, Ms. Albrant and Ms. Freese.

STATEMENT OF LAURA ALBRANT

Ms. ALBRANT. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also would like to wish you a very happy birthday and thank you for letting me speak in front of you today.

My name is Laura Albrant. I am here to talk about channel 1.

Channel 1 held no more significance to me than being the name of a new television station in Rochester, Minn. This was my first impression when I was asked by a friend to attend a channel 1 meeting. Much to my surprise, I soon learned that channel 1 was actually the name of a senior citizens' food co-op designed to help the elderly who are on fixed incomes to have nutritional food and to offer young people in Rochester something positive to work at instead of turning their free time to drugs.

Channel 1 started 3 years ago with the goal of getting young people involved in the community. People came together and came up with ideas that would be helpful and that kids would like to do.

The one idea that the kids liked the most and selected was the plan for a co-op for senior citizens. Channel 1 originally was funded by a grant from the National Institute on Drug Abuse Prevention in partnership with the Prudential Co. from the private sector. Now we are self-supporting in the Rochester community. There are over 50 other channel 1 programs in different parts of the country.

I was interested in helping out at the co-op and quickly became involved with the program. This included trying to figure out ways to supply the co-op with food. Instead of asking the community for all money donations, we asked for food. The donations came from church collections, local industries and stores and the fun food raising projects that we came up with. Roller skating, car washes, movies, starting our own garden, collecting aluminum cans are just some of the ways we did it. One night we had a special meeting to teach people how to fill out their tax forms. We had a specialist come to explain procedures while we performed skits to add visual understanding and some humor. The cost for the evening was in cans of food for the co-op. Unfortunately, there was an ice storm that night, but everyone had fun anyway.

As the need for food increased, so did my involvement in channel 1. I first became a member of the youth board and then the executive board. There are three teenagers on the board with adults and we have full membership and voting rights. This has been a remarkable experience for me. I have had the opportunity to be involved in important decisions about the future of channel 1.

The program has been one of the most influential factors in my life. It has opened my eyes and my heart to the senior citizens we help. I have a much better understanding and respect for these people now than I did before. They have so much love and experience to offer others.

The older people we work with and for have become very good friends. And I just never had the chance before to really meet older people. When you're my age, you don't get the opportunity to sit down and talk with people who have lived a lot longer than you. At the co-op, the atmosphere is very comfortable. It's easy to strike up conversations. I work with an elderly man who is now a very good friend of mine. We help others to pick vegetables and weigh them and select other food. I think one problem is that people usually don't have the patience to get to know one another and to appreciate what the other has to offer.

I look at myself very differently now. This experience has added so much more to me; to my understanding. It has opened my eyes and changed my life. I think a lot of elderly people are lonely. Some don't get out of their homes very much, and when we deliver groceries to them, many want us to just sit and talk and share some time with them. It is something different for them to look forward to, and it means a great deal to us as well.

I couldn't describe the importance that channel 1 has been in my life without including Marge Allen and Flo Barker. These two beautiful people are the heart of channel 1. Their flow of love and energy has been a strong influence on me. I am very proud to be involved in such a positive and rewarding program. I will never forget the learning experiences, friendships with old and young people and joy that channel 1 has brought to my life.

Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much. What a fine statement. Do you have any reluctance about telling your age?

Ms. ALBRANT. I am 18. I will be a freshman this year at River Falls.

The CHAIRMAN. Eighteen?

Ms. ALBRANT. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. And you are doing a great job in running a fine enterprise. How commendable that is of you to be doing that. It is a beautiful thing that you are doing.

Ms. ALBRANT. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN. Now Ms. Freese, would you like to make a statement?

STATEMENT OF DORIS FREESE

Ms. FREESE. I would also like to offer my congratulations, and happy birthday.

My name is Doris Freese and I would like to talk about the channel 1 program in Rochester, Minn. I became acquainted with channel 1 through a friend. I had a lot of time on my hands so I volunteered to work in exchange for food and I really enjoy it. I work 3½ hours every other week and am on call for emergencies. My job consists of supervising the food pantry when the senior citizens come in to do their shopping, taking home delivery orders by telephone and shelving incoming food. The senior citizen I work with is a very kind lady and I have good feelings about working with her. She was very helpful in getting the word out to people about our fresh vegetable market that we have each Saturday in Central Park.

Channel 1 has been a great help to me supplementing my weekly food supply. I have also met a great bunch of people with whom I can exchange ideas on how to make things and do things. We share recipes and often even the finished product.

Another highlight of the co-op is a gentleman who volunteers daily to do errands and helps the young people do home deliveries. He generally does whatever is needed. He always brings a smile and a helping hand. Although he works nights at the Mayo Clinic, he still comes every morning at 9 a.m. to help.

I guess that's the beauty of channel 1. It helps seniors but it also brings people together—the old and the young. I think that's important because youngsters don't have older people to be with usually and this kind of gives them grandparents who care. And you know that the older folks enjoy the young people. They make us feel younger.

Older people need affection. No one can get too much of it. And most young people can be very affectionate and caring. It makes a big difference in our lives.

It is also very rewarding to watch the young people who help the elderly, and see how much they get out of it and how good it makes them feel to serve someone else.

Channel 1 is filling a very definite need in our community and I am pleased to have the opportunity to be part of it.

Thank you very much for having me.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much. That is a beautiful statement that you have just made and I know you are doing wonderful work in working with channel 1.

Did one of you say earlier how many other Channel 1's or institutions like that there are in the country?

Ms. ALBRANT. There are 50.

The CHAIRMAN. I thought you said that. That is great. I hope you can get them all over the country. It is a wonderful institution.

You speak about the loneliness of the elderly. If I may say so, I have a sister right now who is in the hospital and her main problem is loneliness. She is 71 years old and she has taught school for 38 years. Somehow or another after she quit teaching she just lost contact and began to get more and more lonely. She began to get more and more ill and probably her worst trouble right now is depression that relates to the loneliness that she experiences.

So I think one of the greatest omissions of which we are guilty, all over the country, at the National, State, and local level is not providing more facilities for the elderly, particularly, to get out and mix with other people. That is the reason it is so tragic, I think, that we have been reducing the funds for the transportation that is essential to the elderly's getting out and mixing this way. They want to go to the doctor, they want to go to the drugstore, the grocery store, they want to visit a friend or relative and most of them don't have the money to hire a taxi. They don't have friends to come and pick them up, and the public transportation is not available to them, at some very much reduced rate. So they don't go, and they stay at home and stagnate and become more and more recluses and their health begins to be impaired as a result of it. Their mental state is very much disturbed and disorderly, and life becomes a very unhappy experience for them.

We have got to develop some way by which we can urge and encourage communities to set up communitywide and areawide means by which people can be permitted to circulate. They do gain a certain amount of friendship association when they go to the meals program, but a lot of them, of course, don't go unless they have some special assistance. They don't have the transportation by which to go to these places, even.

So, you touched on a very vital and very critical area.

Before we proceed to question our witnesses, I would like to acknowledge an outstanding intergenerational program that we have right here in Washington and this is the Rosemont Day Care Center. The Rosemont Day Care Center is a fine example of how old and young people influence one another's lives.

More than 100 children spend their days at the center and several Foster Grandparents work at the program to help the children learn how to develop the most healthy and positive way. Also, a great number of natural grandparents work at the center, and families are welcome to receive counseling and support as well.

I am certain the Rosemont Center is an excellent model for other programs to follow.

We will continue our questions. Mr. Marks.

Mr. MARKS. Thank you. I have but one question, if I may, Mr. Chairman; that is for Mr. Keeshan, if I might ask.

I noted that in your statement, Mr. Keeshan, and I think I quote you correctly; you suggest that the policies of the present administration have relieved broadcasters of the obligation to be concerned with the youth of the Nation—I wonder if you would take a second with us and amplify that a little bit more. I think that is a rather interesting observation.

Mr. KEESHAN. Well, Mr. Marks, the Federal Communications Commission is responsible for regulating the broadcast industry, and back in 1976 the Commission very specifically made it clear to broadcasters that they had a responsibility to the young people of the community in which their station was located, they had a responsibility to program value-oriented programing and to meet the needs of young people, and that the station would be judged at license renewal time on the basis, among other things, of their work with young people in their community and the kind of programing they presented to young people.

In the spirit of deregulating or for whatever other reason, the present Federal Communications Commission has not only not followed those policies, but has been very specific in stating to broadcasters that they do not have a responsibility to program for young people.

The Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, Mr. Mark Fowler, has made that statement explicitly on several occasions to broadcasters in convention and other forums. He has also said that he feels that it is the natural role of the public broadcasting system to program for young people, even though the administration seems to tell us that in these days of financial cutbacks it is the responsibility of the private sector to fill the vacuum.

Chairman Fowler seems to think that it is the role of public broadcasting which is also suffering severe cutbacks, as is every other agency funded by Government, so we have a clear-cut problem here. We are relieving private commercial broadcasters of their responsibility, telling them they will not be judged on the kind of programing they do for young people when their license comes up for renewal, and at the same time asking public broadcasters to do more programing, in the development of programing for young people, at a time when their funds are being severely cut back. That was the reference I was making.

Mr. MARKS. I appreciate that comment, much of which I happen to agree with very strongly. I happen to believe that public broadcasting may be the salvation of all of us, Mr. Keeshan, and I have as a member of the Subcommittee on Communications, I might add, at least been one of those in the forefront of trying to keep enough dollars in the pot for them to be able to continue to exist.

I think it is a very serious situation, a very, very serious situation that funds for public broadcasting have been cut back so dramatically and drastically, I assume you would agree with that?

Mr. KEESHAN. I would agree with that wholeheartedly. I do not believe it is exclusively the role of public broadcasting to serve young people. I believe that it is the role of broadcasters in the commercial sector and the private sector to serve young people. We do not want to tell them what to broadcast.

That clearly is not in the interest of young people. But we do want to tell them that they have a responsibility to meet the needs

of young people. Television, as I said in my statement, is perhaps the most pervasive influence other than the home on young people today, and if we are not giving value-oriented programing to young people, we are doing something insane. We are destroying a generation of young people by giving them values all that of us would question.

So I think it is the responsibility of the private sector, and I have always worked in the private sector, I am a product of 35 years in the private sector, a defender of broadcasters in this sector, but I think it is absolutely urgent if we are to develop young people through this very pervasive, influential medium of television, that we do place upon the private sector the responsibility to program appropriately for young people.

Mr. MARKS. Again, may I say I appreciate what you are saying. You have said it better than I have said it in the last 6 years. I have tried on many occasions to state what you have now said. I don't think I have ever said it quite as succinctly or as dramatically or as honestly as you put it.

There is the hope of some of us remaining in the Congress of the United States that we can persuade the private sector, particularly in the area of television, to do better than they have, to take on that responsibility to a greater degree than they have.

I appreciate again what you have said. I thank you.

Mr. KEESHAN. Mr. Marks, I appreciate your efforts and offer my services to you and Congressman Wirth and to other members of the Telecommunications Subcommittee at any time you want to make use of me to put forward these ideas and concepts. I am always at your disposal.

Mr. MARKS. Thank you.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you.

Mr. Roybal.

Mr. ROYBAL. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I would like to compliment each one of the witnesses for some very excellent statements. The committee has learned a great deal and appreciates more and more the role that you have played, some of you in the movies, and other professions, in bringing about a better understanding between the aged and the young.

Dr. Salk, I think we clearly understand the explanations that have been given as to the reasons why the young perceive the elderly as very sad and passive characters, and so forth. But as a psychologist, I am going to ask you a question about something that happened a few hours ago.

I was traveling with a fellow congressman and we were discussing a particular congressional race, and in that discussion he said to me, "Well, he is going to lose anyway; he is already past 65 years of age." He did not discuss the qualifications of the individual. Nothing was said about that.

Now this is a matter of attitude. Is this something that originated in his childhood?

Dr. SALK. I would say that how a person is at any given time, what their beliefs are at any given time is a function of everything that has happened in their past. Clearly the experiences that take place very early in life during critical stages in development have a

greater impact on later behavior, even experiences immediately after birth.

We know that there are certain critical stages for the development of certain responses, and if certain things don't take place then there could be some negative effects as well. I am simply being academic by pointing those things out.

This man reflects the attitude of our society. He is a product of our society. He has the belief that age is synonymous with senility and that is absurd. It is absurd to believe that a person who has experienced so much in life should have lost by virtue of those experiences.

But I would say that how older people were characterized in his early life or in his experiences with older people could easily have contributed to that.

Those of us who have been taught by our own parents to respect older people—this certainly was the case in my home where the children were always the ones that came first. I must say my brothers and I share the feeling that children are indeed the hope of our civilization.

I must say that if we not only teach respect but enhance communications between older people and children, this would go a long way toward eliminating the kinds of attitudes that you have just expressed that you heard 3 hours ago from a fellow Congressman.

Mr. ROYBAL. Dr. Salk, in this particular instance the individual did not realize that he was talking to someone who had already passed the 65th birthday.

Dr. SALK. I hope you pointed this out to him.

Mr. ROYBAL. No; unfortunately we went on with the conversation and did not become involved in any indepth discussion on the subject. Perhaps I should have. But doesn't a college education mean anything as far as attitude is concerned with regard to the elderly?

Dr. SALK. Not necessarily. There are certain things that people do not get through a formal education but they get through life experiences, through the experiences they have lived. There are so many marvelous people in this world who have not had an opportunity for much formal education who are brilliant, and I would consider my mother among those people—a woman who struggled, experienced tremendous deprivation in emigrating to this country at the turn of the century who was a woman whose wisdom was based on life experiences.

I think that is what we are talking about today. We are talking about wisdom that is acquired through living, not necessarily through formal education. Some of the people I know who have the narrowest vision are people with the longest number of degrees added to their names.

Mr. ROYBAL. So attitude has to be established at an early age?

Dr. SALK. Absolutely.

Mr. ROYBAL. The change of attitude, regardless of age, is most difficult to attain; is that correct?

Dr. SALK. That is correct. I would say that the patterns of behavior that are established early in life are highly resistant to change. That is why we can do a great deal toward preventing——

Mr. ROYBAL. A great deal can be done about changing attitude if we change the media, a presentation made by the media would be

radio-television or the press of senior citizens. That is then one way.

Can you give me another example of what can be done to change attitudes?

Dr. SALK. I think by presenting people as human beings with feelings. One of the programs that I would like to recommend is that we bring our young closer to our older population. I would like to see entertainers—I think the channel 1 program is one example of this; where potentially destructive young people who are trying to gain recognition in the eyes of other people can do it through socially useful activities and I think that can come about if we can encourage our young people as part of the educational process or through community activities to participate in the lives of older people.

This past year I have had a television program on Hearst ABC called "Daytime." It is called "Dr. Salk Talking to Teens," and in one of the programs I spoke to three teenagers who earned money in the community by visiting with older people in their homes after school and clean their homes, do their shopping for them and care for them.

In talking with them about the experience, they talked of how it changed their attitude, their feelings toward older people, it changed their own attitude about growing old themselves, and it certainly gave them a feeling of recognition within the community. It gave them the kind of self esteem I think all of our teenagers can get in positive ways rather than having to resort to negative ways to gain the recognition of our society.

Programs like that are invaluable and it is a human resource that is untapped.

Mr. ROYBAL. Mr. Chairman, I have one question I must ask because it is most important that this matter be clarified, at least in my mind, and I am going to ask this question of Miss Albrant.

You state in your testimony that channel 1 originally was funded by a grant from the National Institute of Drug Abuse Prevention.

By reading that name one would assume that the National Institute of Drug Abuse Prevention would only be interested in drug abuse. Here they made possible a grant for this program. Can you tell me how you were successful in convincing the National Institute of Drug Abuse Prevention to make such a grant?

Ms. ALBRANT. Well, you see, many people when they hear you say the National Institute of Drug Abuse Prevention automatically have kind of negative feelings toward channel 1. We were worried about the youth in Rochester going—we have seen a lot of trends going toward drugs and such and we picked this program not only to help out youngsters who are in the community going toward bad ways, but to get them involved with the senior citizens, and we just told them this and it has worked very successfully.

For example, we have a garden where we grow fresh produce for the senior citizen food co-op and many of the workers in this garden have been from homes where these kids go that have been involved in drugs for treatment and they come down and it is great because nobody thinks of them as being, you know, he was into drugs and everything. They are just another person there and they interact with everybody else.

Mr. ROYBAL. I sit on another committee that funds the National Drug Abuse Prevention and I am pleased to learn that they go beyond the original scope and are doing this kind of work with channel 1.

Thank you very much.

Ms. ALBRANT. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you.

Mr. Roybal, Mr. Lungren.

Mr. LUNGREN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Before I ask a question I would like to suggest that perhaps the comment that was made that they have stereotyping in the media, or excuse me, on television, in the way aged are portrayed and so forth, perhaps goes beyond that.

I recall when I was one of the original Members of Congress, campaigning with President Reagan before he was President. Virtually everywhere we went, the media waited to see if Ronald Reagan had difficulty hearing, and as you know he has difficulty hearing in one ear as a result of an accident years ago on a movie set.

That was never brought out. Rather, it was suggested this was evidence he was getting old. In some cases it almost sounded like reporters were whispering the question to him to see if he could hear. Again, stereotype.

Was he able to go through the entire campaign schedule that day? Was he too tired? After a while you got the idea that perhaps they were looking for something; at least that is the subtle suggestion I got. So I guess there is blame to go all around. It is just not those who are putting the sitcoms on or the dramatic portrayals, but I think the news media has some reason to be concerned about that.

We have the oldest person as President in the history of the United States. If you said 4 years ago that his election would be a possibility, I would say that perhaps the opinion makers we find in the media would suggest that it would not be possible.

Now, you talk about bringing generations together. One of the best experiences I had in the campaign was having one of my supporters, who happens to live in Leisure World in my district, who is an original member of the Ziegfield Follies, working on my phone bank next to a 16-year-old high school student and comparing notes about what dating was like then and now. I don't know how you can make a better intergenerational mix than that, but I could see that they both enjoyed it and perhaps without that opportunity to draw them together they would not have done so.

Mr. Keeshan, I refer to you as Captain Kangaroo. I was 9 when you came on board and I used to watch you and Mr. Green Jeans. Frankly, one of my images was destroyed when I saw a picture in a magazine when I realized you weren't a grandfather and were 28 years of age and had black hair instead of white hair.

I recovered from that shock, at least I think I have.

Mr. KEESHAN. I have changed this for you.

Mr. LUNGREN. I understand that. I appreciate it. You are one of the things that makes me believe that what we see on TV isn't all just glitter and gold and good value actually does come out.

One of the things I would like to address to you is a question on the position of Mr. Fowler in deregulating, generally speaking.

Some have said, including Senator Packwood of the U.S. Senate, in support of a bill that has passed the Senate for further deregulation, that we ought to extend the first amendment rights to the electronic media. Others have said that times have changed and that perhaps deregulation was not something we ought to do when we had the advent of television, back in the late Thirties or early Forties. Then perhaps there was a need to regulate because you had so few stations.

Now when we see cable television coming on and all sorts of other technologies that will expand the capability of stations, and I dare say you will probably have several stations or channels just dedicated to children, in those areas that have multiple stations, do you think we ought to rethink the possibility of extending first amendment rights to the electronic media as opposed to the Government in one scheme or other, determining that there are areas that programing ought to be directed at.

Mr. KEESHAN. Well, Mr. Lungren, it is a question that cannot be answered simply because it is obviously a very complex question. There are differences among the media. Certainly vast differences between the broadcast media, radio and television and the print media, newspapers, and magazines, which make the constitutional question something quite different—the use of public resources and so forth, the airwaves.

A lot of Senator Packwood's comments are addressed really to the political aspect—the fairness doctrine; and there are many areas with regard to the fairness doctrine which I find myself in agreement with Senator Packwood.

What we are talking about is something quite different. We are talking about responsibility.

You cited the potential for cable television, where we have on most cable systems the potential for 36 or 48 or many more channels and, therefore, we don't have to broadcast, we can narrow-cast and meet the needs of smaller groups of people. We are not always going after the greatest number of people, the largest broadcast audience, which we have to do in commercial television to meet the commercial needs of advertising.

And children who are a minority audience will never be served in that kind of a format.

Now, cable television does have the potential for serving the special needs of young people, the elderly, the handicapped, and many other communities of need. However, the very people who need television the most are the people who may well a decade from now be deprived of this broad spectrum of television because cable television is likely to develop into what I call pay television, essentially; you pay for a cable service and very often you pay for a service once you have the cable service, the movies and so forth, are additionally charged for.

So I would say a decade from now we may have in this Nation two systems of television; pay TV and poor TV. On the air television as we know it today will be available to the poor; they will not be able to afford cable television and the pay services that come with it, and those very people are the people I speak of, the aged,

very often the young, those on aid to dependent children programs and so I would be a little reluctant to say that cable television is going to serve the needs of minority groups in the future.

I think that there will be an opportunity for many of these services to be there if you can pay for them. But we may come down to a day when we have tremendous television in which advertisers will not be interested because the audience for those services, for those programs on the air will be the people who are not desirable from an advertising point of view or a desirable market; the elderly, the poor, and underprivileged.

So I am not as enthusiastic about the potential for cable television and I think if we as a nation are concerned about the way we develop our young people and serve others that we have to be concerned about what we do in the present system on the air broadcast media.

Mr. LUNGREN. Well, if I could respond to that.

As a parent of three children, I have great concerns about what they see on television. I am constantly telling them no, turn it off, don't watch it.

Mr. KEESHAN. You are the exception.

Mr. LUNGREN. Well, I am not sure. There are a lot of people out there trying to do the same thing. A show like yours, what time are you on; 6:30 in the morning?

Mr. KEESHAN. To watch "Captain Kangaroo" now constitutes child abuse.

Mr. LUNGREN. I know you don't want to make it, but that is a criticism of the stations that you are on. Yet I read in the papers that their parent companies have the largest percent profit of any particular company in America. They outdistance the oil companies so greatly it is not even a contest and yet they say you have got to be on at 6 a.m. Why? Because they feel, as I understand it, they are going to give us a half hour more news in the morning.

Mr. KEESHAN. Also, it is a more profitable operation to have news on rather than "Captain Kangaroo." Advertisers are not interested in the minority audience of children. They are interested in the mass audience of adults. We can serve those people with news programing even if it is the third news program on the network. Here the minority audience is not being served.

Mr. LUNGREN. When my children asked me for particular toys and cereal that they see on television, I am not sure I agree with your argument that advertisers aren't interested in young people today.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Wyden.

Mr. WYDEN. Thank you very much. I know we have a lot of colleagues waiting. I have just one question on a subject that we haven't covered up to this point and that is crime.

All the public opinion surveys that I have seen indicate that for senior citizens the top problem in this country is crime, and a lot of the senior citizens and this committee has looked at it, literally put them in bars inside their house and don't go out at night and one of the things they always cite is a lot of them are afraid of teenagers; they say they are concerned about teenagers and being taken advantage of on the street, and what is sad about all of this is that it is a very, very, very small percentage of youngsters that

are involved in the muggings and purse snatching and activity of this sort, and yet the senior citizens are very afraid and a lot of them are reluctant to go outside at night.

I think I would like to ask you, Ben, because you gave such an excellent statement, what is your feeling, Ben, about why senior citizens are afraid of some of the teenagers of this country, and what do you think we might do about it? I have got some thoughts about it. I would like to hear some of your feelings.

Mr. JORGENSEN. In my research for doing the story with Representative Pepper, and another story at an old age home, I discovered many interesting facts about the things you have been saying. It is true that around the country many old people fear going outside because of a threat from teenagers, but it has become now so perverse in Florida, whereby articles in the press and a few media clippings indicate that the elderly are really in bad shape—but how can I explain it? The elderly have become in a state where they are now prejudiced very much against children coming into most of the complexes and the youth are being sort of treated as, or sort of discriminated against in a sense that they are very mean, very cruel to old people, but it is because now that the elderly in Florida are the least abused age group.

Mr. WYDEN. Let me ask it this way: Do you think it would be helpful if we got young people to go to senior citizens centers and places where the senior citizens gather, like their lunch program, and maybe we could then show that most young people are not interested in picking their pocket or snatching their purse? Do you think something like that would help?

Mr. JORGENSEN. I would, but what happens is it is mainly peers that prevent most kids from going to see older people. I know many of my friends, another kid would say I am going to see my grandmother, he would say, poor you. He epitomizes the child going so the person goes to his grandparents after talking to his friends and with a very negative image of his grandmother or grandfather and nowadays it becomes almost impossible for young people to relate to old people because of the way the families are splitting up, and families move to new places and distant places; I think it is almost virtually impossible for young people to relate to an old person in general if they can't have an experience within their own family.

Mr. LUNGREN. Thank you.

Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Daub.

Mr. DAUB. Ben Jorgensen, you ought to be in Congress.

The CHAIRMAN. No doubt he will be.

Mr. DAUB. Thank you, Mr. Chairman

I really have enjoyed the interesting observations that each of you brought to our panel this morning and I commend the chairman for holding the hearing.

I want to ask one question, particularly of you, and I can't call you Bob Keeshan, I have to call you Captain Kangaroo; my three children weaned on your program until it got to be too early in the morning to watch it. I then want to ask Dr. Dodson and Dr. Salk a question. I would like each of you to comment.

First, I am fascinated by your concern for the substance of what is shown on commercial television. I think we have a serious prob-

lem there. But then I wonder if you are suggesting that the FCC or some other Government office like a national program director ought to review and approve programs or portrayals of old and young. Just how in effect can we judge what is good and bad and wouldn't that amount to prior restraint or censorship? I am sure that would be the opinion of the media covering this hearing today if someone was placed in authority to decide whether the content was good or bad.

Mr. KEESHAN. I have spent probably the last 15 years, Mr. Daub, crossing this country, talking against Government regulation of broadcasting, because I have felt that broadcasters were responsible individuals and that they would act in a responsible manner.

However, this position was at a time when regulation was threatened, when greater regulation was threatened and once the threat of regulation was removed, I have noticed a very substantial change in attitude on the part of broadcasters.

I would be the last person to suggest that we have a national policy related to broadasting, that we even judge broadcasters on the quality of programing because I don't know what that is, but I think if we leave it to the commonsense of broadcasters to meet the needs, very special and specific need of their community, they will be able to do so and they have proven that they have been able to do so in the past.

But when you have a chairman of the Federal Communications Commission who says, quote: The marketplace will take care of children, unquote, then broadcasters get the message. Broadcasters know that they do not have the responsibility to meet the needs of children in a community. "Captain Kangaroo" is where it is today because broadcasters were told they don't have to take "Captain Kangaroo" any more as part of their schedule.

I am now moving to Saturday and Sunday on September 18 and we are having great difficulty. We will probably end up with out of 210 potential stations, we will probably end up with 130 on Saturday morning and about 35 on Sunday morning. That would not have happened 10 years ago. That would not have happened 5 years ago.

What I am saying to you is that it is a matter of asking broadcasters to be responsible and telling them that you expect them to be responsible, but when you tell them that the marketplace will take care of the needs of children, then you are just giving them free reign over dollars on the bottom line. We have to stop reading the——

Mr. DAUB. Of course, what I am looking for is that definitive method—and I guess that escapes you as it does most of us.

Mr. KEESHAN. It would escape any of us. There is no handbook for that, Congressman. It is good commonsense. I think we can do it because we have proven in the past we can do it.

Mr. DAUB. Then to be able to require it, whatever it is, might be the real tough problem.

Mr. KEESHAN. Just the very threat of it being there I think is enough to cause broadcasters to be responsible.

Mr. DAUB. I appreciate your view on that. Thank you.

Let me ask Dr. Dodson and Dr. Salk to comment on this general question: Some would argue that government at various levels has

usurped the role of the family in providing for members of different generations, and that it is too easy to forget our responsibility, one to another—for example, medicaid may pay for the elderly resident of a nursing home and Government funded daycare centers may relieve us of our child responsibilities.

Do you believe that Government might at least in part have to share some of the blame for this growing intergenerational problem this weakening of family relationships?

Dr. DODSON. Before I answer that question, can I make a contribution to the television question?

Mr. DAUB. Sure.

Dr. DODSON. Everybody seems to lack a method for how to protect children from the foolish television wasteland and what to do about the incredible number of hours they spent watching television. I have a very simple solution to that.

The family, mother and father, perhaps the grandparents; if they are members of the family, get together and figure out how you can have a way to get your children of various ages to watch only 15 hours of television per week. That would be an incredible thing if all the families of America had a way to do that. I have it.

You introduce pay as you go television. You figure out how many hours you want them to watch and then you figure out, let's say, that you are going to charge them, everybody in the family, one thin dime per half hour of TV they watch.

The CHAIRMAN. Pardon me for interrupting but the second bell has rung, it is a record rollcall, and most of us I suspect would want to go over. We will take a temporary recess so we can run over and vote and we will be right back. I am sorry to interrupt you.

[Recess.]

The CHAIRMAN. The committee will be in order.

Dr. Dodson, when we recessed, you were answering questions of Mr. Daub. If you will conclude your answer, we will thank you.

Dr. DODSON. I had better start that from the beginning, because I was several sentences into it.

So, the parents tell the children, "Good news, we are going to raise your allowance," or, if they have no allowance, "We are going to give you an allowance," and you raise it, let's say, $1.50. They can use 15 dimes, and if my arithmetic is correct, that will buy $1.50, and they could then watch 15 half-hours. It is known that what everybody puts into the kitty will then be used for some kind of total family-interesting thing to do.

Now, what happens if you do this? No longer will you find the kids sitting with glazed eyes all day in front of the TV. They will have to be selective. That is one good thing. And second, they will have to cut their TV hours down to 15, though you didn't exactly tell them that in so many words. This sneaky approach, I think, is very effective.

I wish I had followedup the name of one man who is an engineer in one of my classes that I taught this to, because he created a simple little mechanical gadget which went on the TV and made it only work on dimes. It was terrific. He said it was very easy to make, but if I had prevailed on him to think of the commercial possibilities of it, it might have sold millions.

So this is one simple way in which I think we can, without the government putting out any more money, without individuals putting out any more money, regulate TV.

Mr. DAUB. I made a quick calculation with three children in my family, and I think I could put them through college on that program.

Dr. DODSON. You will get all kinds of free time that is not TV time.

Mr. DAUB. I appreciate that.

Dr. DODSON. Refresh my memory, what is the other thing you asked?

Mr. DAUB. I am concerned about the relationship of Government. Some argue that with medicare, medicaid, social security, and expenses paid for nursing home care on the one hand, versus, for example, child care credits on the income tax return and daycare for kids paid for by government, that maybe government might arguably be somewhat responsible or have to accept some of the blame for adding to this intergenerational separation that is occurring.

Would you think there is anything to that?

Mr. DODSON. You see, I have yet to hear a politician mention the fact that we need to train parents to be parents and train grandparents to be grandparents.

We have taken for granted in this hearing that all you have to do with grandparents and young kids is for the grandparents to share their lore and experiences. I don't think that is true at all. They can't share their lore if nobody teaches them.

I grew up in the old extended family. My grandparents on my mother's side lived with me all the time from birth while I was growing up, and they could have shared a great deal with me, but they didn't know how.

The best thing that my grandfather did for me, was to take me to the store to go shopping. And I remember that very vividly, we would go to the store with my little red wagon, and I would hold his big, strong hand and go. But there were so many things he didn't do. We just went to the store and back.

When we bought mackerel, he could have said, "This comes from Japan," and tell me about the different foods and so on. He didn't do anything about that because nobody taught him. He had been a letter carrier for 35 years and I am sure he could have had a lot to share with me, but nobody taught him how to share.

So I think we have to have classes in how to share with the other generations, or they will never be able to do it. It is just like this. How many of you people up on the dais there know how to fly an airplane? Anybody? No, fine.

Let's say I am going to try to change your attitudes about how to fly an airplane. But I am not going to do a darned thing to change your attitude unless I actually teach you how to fly an airplane.

Then if I actually teach you, it won't be a question of, now I have better throughts about airplanes, because your attitudes will change automatically, once you are taught how to use the skill and pilot the plane.

Once you teach grandparents and parents to share with each other and have communication with each other, and that has to be

done through classes, at least, you are not going to really change anybody's attitude.

Mr. DAUB. Thank you.

Dr. Salk?

Dr. SALK. Your question has to do with the potential paternalism of government.

Mr. DAUB. You cited in your testimony some very interesting private-sector volunteer-type programing that seemed to be working quite well.

Dr. SALK. Yes. Let me simply say I believe that our society does not support the family. We literally give lipservice to the idea that we support the family. I think there is a definition of the family by different political factions which is very confusing. My definition of the family is expressed in functional terms, how people function as a family, not structurally.

In other words, there are many single-parent families where they are functioning as excellent families, where each person is meaningful in the life of the other person, where each gains a sense of self-esteem from the other.

To me, that is much more important then whether there is a mother, father and 1.7 children to make up a national average or whatever. I would much prefer to see efforts made to bring families together rather than split them.

Now, I happen not to be a supporter of the term "day care," because I don't believe in taking care of days, I believe in taking care of children, and I think even the term "day care" reflects an attitude in our society that has to do with making it convenient for adults.

I must say, also, that I separate myself from other people who write books on child rearing, because I am not interested in making it more easier for the parent, but more meaningful for the child from a psychological viewpoint.

I would prefer to see Government take the lead by saying families should travel together. I would be glad to see legislators be able to take their families every third trip or however, in an effort to say our Government respects the family.

There are many legislators who have a lot of personal problems because they do not have enough time to be with their families and I think it is one thing to say we believe in the family, and it is another thing to have flexible working hours, for example, with jobs to provide people with benefits, even though they may be splitting a job.

In other words, that people who have to work, where there are two-parent families, where both parents have to work, at least they are able to assume responsibilities for the care of the family and also the responsibilities for working, so it is hard for me to answer the question in a way by saying day care centers interfere with the family.

They may or may not, depending on how we characterize them.

I also believe, and I am very unhappy about having learned there will be a cut in a program I am involved in. I am on a commission presently concerned with the establishment of minimal standards for child care workers so we can literally certify people who will take care of children in this country.

We license plumbers, we license mechanics, but our greatest asset, our children, are frequently turned over to the least competent people with the least sensitivity. I hope that gives you my response to the question.

Mr. DAUB. I appreciate your point of view, and I thank all of you for being with us today.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Albosta?

Mr. ALBOSTA. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to take this opportunity to thank the panel and apologize for not being here for the entire hearing. I would like to take the opportunity right now to congratulate our chairman, Claude Pepper, on his 82d birthday. Congratulations, Claude.

I will keep my questions very short. Are you familiar with the title V program, the senior employment program? Ms. Freese, you may be familiar with it. Many of the title V workers in my district work with local schools, to tutor students who are having problems in their studies.

Do you think this is a productive program to bring in older and younger people, together, and is it a proper, a good constructive use of public funds?

We can start with you, Ms. Freese.

Ms. FREESE. Yes, I do think it is very constructive. I think we need probably more of that type of thing. There are many too many youngsters who haven't the supervision in the home and they just don't care because nobody seems to care for them.

They have no place where they can go or somebody to take an interest.

Mr. ALBOSTA. Would you tend to agree or disagree that older people tend to perhaps have more patience, perhaps can listen to younger people's problems? Many of these students who do get to the organization from older Americans from the title V program particularly, and the Green Thumb program in Michigan, particularly, they seem to have the ability to listen to children's problems and understand perhaps, even their problems better than maybe the age of the mother or father.

Would you agree with that?

Ms. FREESE. Yes, I would. When we get older, we haven't so many pressing problems of our own. We need somebody to talk to, we need somebody to come to us with their problems to give us an incentive to live and carry on.

Mr. ALBOSTA. Certainly with age we can all talk better from experience and can think better from experience. I think that we have a proper use of the title V funds. If any of the rest of the members of the panel have any comments on that type of program, I would appreciate their comments here, and I don't want to ask them directly, but if you have comments, I would appreciate it.

Mr. Chairman, I just want to say that I do think the title V program has been a very successful one, it worked with young people in Michigan in my congressional district. I would like to see it continued.

I think it is a success, and it is one of the few successes that I can think of right offhand in which the Federal Government has been involved, and I hope this administration and the Congress will have the will and integrity to continue that type of a program.

Again, I thank the panel for being here today.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you, Mr. Albosta.

Now, I have a special pleasure to welcome to our membership on this committee a very lovely and distinguished lady who has just been appointed to membership on the committee, and we are glad to have her here today.

Mrs. Margaret Heckler.

Mrs. HECKLER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is a pleasure to be a member of this committee, having worked for so many programs that deal with the elderly for so many years on other committees and having worked with you particularly on our geriatrics bill for veterans which passed a few years ago with your help.

I think it is propitious that we be at our first committee hearing together on the occasion of your birthday, since you are now 82 years young. You give us great hope for the future.

It is a pleasure to have heard portions of testimony from the panel and the dialog that followed, and of course, to have read the testimony. It is something of a cultural shock to see Captain Kangaroo here. As a mother of three children, I am very, very familiar with your really fine performances and I find it very difficult to see you in another role, despite the fact that you are physically present as an individual rather than the legendary figure.

The subject we have been discussing is very important and so interesting. As one who was raised by a grandmother, I had great respect and love for her, and since she was a figure of authority, we did not have exactly unique problems of communication, merely those that perhaps exist in the situation in which a grandparent takes on a parental role.

I have been thinking, as I listened to all of the panelists, about my experiences in the People's Republic of China, which I think were very enlightening. It seems that our problem in America is not necessarily the lack of a generational understanding between different age groups but really the lack of true respect for the older members of our society.

It is not a generational problem necessarily, but a societal problem. I remember a Chinese expression, "Cherish the young and treasure the old," and in fact, at every gathering in that country the oldest member of the family present received that very special position of honor, the chair of honor, and was first addressed for comment.

I wonder, are we really dealing with a societal problem, and can that be reversed? I would ask any member of the panel to address the issue, because I feel very strongly that, until we start to give more than lipservice, not only to families—Dr. Salk, I agree with you there—but also to our older friends and relatives in a genuine sense, with sincerity and with interest, seeing them as human beings despite the color of their hair, we are never going to cope or really overcome the generational problem that perhaps is one factor of the total picture.

Dr. SALK. I agree completely that it is a societal problem. I think it is the reflection of society's attitude, how old people are viewed. How can we solve it? I think we can probably solve it by using the methods of big business. There is not a major corporation in this country, if they were going to introduce a new product, that would

not bring in the best public relations people that money could buy to change the image, to make people want something they may not even need or to create a sense of value about something.

And I am convinced that we could change the attitude in our country toward our young and toward our older, simply by using the mass media, use the techniques of advertising, to use the techniques of public relations to say: "These are our most valuable people. These are important people."

And, unconsciously, people will begin to respond quite differently.

Over the years I have been on this Earth, I have seen Marlboro change from a lady's cigarette to a macho man's cigarette, and that didn't come about spontaneously. That was the result of probably millions of dollars of advertising, and I think we could consider that as a technique.

Perhaps Government ought to allocate some money to use the mass media to change attitudes in those directions. I think it would go a long way toward making programs work that aren't working at this point.

Mrs. HECKLER. It seems to me the mass media is also responsible to a large extent for the youth worship that has produced the lack of tolerance and lack of understanding—really the lack of genuine support—for the older citizen.

In this frantic and ridiculous attempt to always remain young, which is a losing battle—I think Bob Keeshan told us before that there are more people of a certain age who buy products. They are the target of the media, to be sold products.

Television basically is a means of selling products and it is a means of delivering an audience to a manufacturer to sell his product. The rest of it is incidental. I would say that is why Lawrence Welk went off the air. He had an enormous rating, but with older people, who don't buy as many products as younger people.

Dr. DODSON. I don't think PR and the mass media are going to do it. Certainly not unassisted. We have a kind of free enterprise among the generations now, children, parents, and grandparents, and I think if you have people who know how to be good parents, and are good parents, the children will like them.

That is kind of a redundant thing, but it is true. The children will like them and after the children grow up, they will want to spend time with them. If they are lousy parents, the children will not like them. They will keep quiet about it for many years, because the parents ordinarily won't let them speak.

But then they will not like them. They will move to the west coast or somewhere to get away from them. I am well acquainted with this phenomenon. The same way with grandparents. My children are very fortunate in having good grandparents on their mother's side, and my children like to be with their grandparents.

They don't have grandparents on their father's side, because they were deceased, but if they were lousy grandparents on their mother's side, my children wouldn't like to be with them, and they wouldn't continue to be with them. And surely, after they were grown up they wouldn't. And so I think the final test is when parents are, in fact, good parents, know how to relate to children and

communicate with them or good grandparents. And if they are the children will stay with them.

If they are not, no amount of PR will cause good relationships to exist.

Mr. KEESHAN. I think there is something that comes before that, and that is what Dr. Salk was addressing. We very clearly have real-life generational relationships today. We don't very often have an opportunity to like or dislike our grandparents.

Very often, the impressions we are given as very young people, and I think Dr. Salk will agree with this, these impressions are given at 2 years and 3 years and 4 and 5 years of life, the formative stages of life, and they are given principally through the medium of television.

A lot of us sit back and say, "It can't be all that serious," but we have huge numbers of juveniles in this Nation watching game shows and soap operas with very mature themes, that are more mature than we would see in evening television, and as long as we continue using television as a babysitter and getting children out of the way, out from under our feet, we are going to be giving these values to children, because they are watching 25 and 30 and 35 hours a week.

And as long as we use it for that purpose, it deprives them of real-life experiences, sandbox experiences, intergenerational experiences and we will have a problem. The very medium that created the problem, I think, is a force that can change it if we use commonsense and we are very foolish, as I said, today, if we do not indeed make those efforts.

Mrs. HECKLER. I would like to hear your thoughts on the subject.

Mr. MCKEON. It is difficult to add to the responses given by all three gentlemen. I would like to add that I do believe the views on the elderly people spout from the home. You know, the kids have grown up in the families and they get these views from older people from what they are taught, not only their own brothers, sisters and parents, but by their peers as well, as they get older, and what their friends have to say.

A lot of times they want to fit in with a group and if they go against what their friends say, they feel quite out of place.

I recently went on a retreat not too long ago, about a year ago, with my friend, and I was honored to become his sponsor. He was just making his confirmation. One thing I would like to say very honestly, I wish it would grow within the community, more of these retreats, because a lot of the kids my age—I go to a—I made my confirmation in the seventh grade, and my friend was only making it in his sophomore year, but all these other kids were my age, and they were having as their sponsor their grandparents, mainly their grandfathers, but you would be surprised; of 26 kids, there are about 4 or 5 elderly people being there representing their own grandchildren as their sponsors.

Their responses were, "Because I love him," and "Because he has taught me so much," and "He is guiding me through my school and he is someone I can fall back on," and I think that is very important.

It backs up what I said about a give-and-take relationship. I would really like to see more of that.

Mrs. HECKLER. An interesting experience. I also think there is nothing incompatible with any of the statement made by the panelists. Actually, there are many factors involved in the question, both the personal relationships and their development in the family. A good grandperson who is close to the children and a societal attitude that relates to the relationship of the elderly in a society where the grandchildren are not necessarily present, in different States, in different communities.

I think there are many ways to attack a problem and they have to be approached. You are one of the youngest and most articulate on this panel. From your generation, what would you say?

Mr. JORGENSEN. I would say simply—and I feel that with a bad set of parents who perhaps did not get along with their mother and father when they were children, they would point to all the bad things about them, and you would be convinced of this, and be looking out for what your parents pointed out, and not really appreciate the good things about your grandparents.

Everything else seems to be covered so far.

Mrs. HECKLER. I have been informed that my time has expired.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much.

I want to ask one or two questions. We are out of time, so I will ask you to give brief responses, please.

I want to ask each one of you, first, this question: Do you think the kind of material that is sometimes displayed by TV and the movies is harmful to the young people. Just answer it briefly.

Dr. Dodson?

Dr. DODSON. The PTA believes it is. I don't. I think there is no scientific evidence that this material is harmful. We hear all this stuff about violence creating violent people and so on. The TV in Japan has incredibly more violence than we have on U.S. TV, and yet the Japanese and the Japanese teenagers are nowhere near as violent in actuality as our people and our teenagers.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much, doctor. I am going to call all these young men Mister. Just as we try to keep elderly people from being discriminated against as they grow older, we don't want to discriminate against the young people who are entitled to respect.

Mr. McKeon, what would you say to my question?

Mr. MCKEON. Being part of the film industry, and I have only done 16 years of living and 11½ years of acting, I have seen it both ways. I believe that it can be harmful, the media, in a way. Such films as the macho films, where guns are carried and so forth.

I have actually seen kids running around and saying, "I shot you in the head," and things like that, and it can be harmful, I think, if the parents do not instruct their children in what to see and what not to see.

For instance, the other day on a news program they were discussing the fact that rating movies—I mean it says restricted and only those over 17 are allowed, and you see a 15 year old walk into the movie theater, just because the cinema wants their money, I kind of think that is wrong, especially if it is a rather violent film.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much.

Mr. Keeshan?

Mr. KEESHAN. I think the National Institute of Mental Health report last May is the latest and most definitive report on the subject, and it points out that there is without question adverse effects upon excessive viewing of television violence which leads to aggressive behavior and particularly leads to aggressive behavior in those children who from real life experiences are so predisposed to aggressive behavior.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Jorgensen?

Mr. JORGENSEN. I would think that most violence among children these days comes mainly out of the home, and that spreads outside, and surely films and TV contribute, but mainly it comes from the home, through neglect and abuse, depending on the particular person.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much.

Dr. Salk?

Dr. SALK. I agree with Ben completely that the origins are in the home. The NIMH report Bob Keeshan was referring to, I was about to read the results, "Children can become hardhearted from watching violence on television. They can also become frightened, worried, or suspicious. Researchers also found children who watch many violent programs tend to be more aggressive on the playground and in the classroom."

I think that is clear scientific evidence.

Mr. ALBRANT. I agree that TV can have a bad effect upon certain people.

The CHAIRMAN. Ms. Freese?

Ms. FREESE. I am afraid I agree. I think there are too many youngsters who watch TV and don't do anything else, and they think that is what they are supposed to do.

Mr. WYDEN. As I understand it, there is a special celebration that is supposed to take place in this room. I would like to request at this time that we close the hearing and ask everyone to stay in their seat, because I understand that in just a few minutes a special celebration is to take place.

The CHAIRMAN. Let me add this: I see one of our distinguished members has just arrived.

This is a very serious problem in our democracy. We have beautiful movies like "On Golden Pond," beautiful statements like that which have a favorable influence, and then we can have very sordid things that appear.

How, in a democracy, are we going to protect the people properly without exerting censorship or rigorous examination that would be objectionable? It is a very fine question, and it is a matter that we will have to work out with public opinion.

Before I close, Mr. Ratchford, would you like to say something?

Mr. RATCHFORD. The Member from Connecticut, who has grown, over a 4-year period of time, to not only respect but deeply love you, let me say in your case there is no age discrimination, we have no problem with discrimination. You have been an example for all of us.

You are a living testament to those of us who care, that age doesn't matter in America, so God bless you and happy birthday.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much, Bill.

I want to thank all of you who have been here today on the committee, a fine attendance, and especially we all want to thank this wonderful panel we have had here today.

It is one of the best we have ever had. Now, when Mr. Jorgensen here gets to be 82, we want to join him and celebrate his birthday, too, and have a big time. Thank you all very much.

Mr. WYDEN. Everyone stay in their seats and, as I understand, in 5 minutes, there will be a celebration of some sort or another.

[Whereupon, at 1 p.m., the hearing was adjourned.]